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CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Peruvian, Ecuadoran Troop Withdrawal Urged *[Madrid EFE]* 1
Meeting on Central American Parliament Ends *[San Salvador TV]* 1

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

GRANMA Editorial Prominent in Foreign Press *[Havana TV]* 2
Exiled Group Supports Transition to Democracy *[AFP]* 2
CTC To Promote PCC Congress Resolutions *[Havana Radio]* 2
Castros Selected Delegates to PCC Congress *[Mexico City NOTIMEX]* 2
More on Fidel Castro Election *[Havana TV]* 2
Tenth Eastern Army Elects Raul *[Havana TV]* 3
Havana on Party Assemblies, Congress Delegates *[Havana TV]* 3
Fidel Attends Mexican, Venezuelan Receptions *[Havana TV]* 3
Escalona Receives Canadian Parliamentarians *[Havana TV]* 4
Malmierca Receives Swedish, Barbadian Envoys *[Havana TV]* 4
No Changes in Tripartite Oil Agreement Foreseen *[Havana Radio]* 4
Mexican Science Official Begins Visit *[Havana TV]* 4
Official on Possible Support From Guyana *[AFP]* 4
Firm Management Sentenced for Economic Crime *[Havana TV]* 5

Bahamas

'Intolerable Level' of Illegal Haitians Discussed *[Nassau Radio]* 5

Barbados

Opposition Campaigns To 'Bring Down' Government *[CANA]* 5

Dominica

Soviet Pullout From Cuba Could Hurt Tourism *[CANA]* 6

Haiti

International Support on Dominican Issue Urged *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 6
Trade Unions Protest Poor Living Conditions *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 7

Montserrat

Deputy Premier Resigns; Cabinet Collapse Feared *[CANA]* 7
Governor Dissolves Legislature *[CANA]* 7

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

FMLN Calls UN Peace Talks 'Positive' *[Mexico City NOTIMEX]* 8
Commentary on Right-Wing Pressure on Cristiani *[Radio Farabundo Marti]* 8
Cristiani Delivers Independence Day Speech *[Mexico City NOTIMEX]* 8

Guatemala

Belize's Prime Minister Cancels 'Surprise Visit' *[EL GRAFICO 16 Sep]* ... 9
Foreign Minister Arrives *[Panama City ACAN]* ... 9
Serrano Rejects Foreign Minister's Resignation *[EL GRAFICO 13 Sep]* ... 10

Nicaragua

'Explanation' of President's Veto of Property Law *[BARRICADA 13 Sep]* ... 10
Hondurans Said To Supply Arms to Recontras *[Managua Radio]* ... 14
CIAV-OAS Said To Protect Wounded Recontra *[BARRICADA 15 Sep]* ... 14

Panama

President of Assembly on Alliance With PDC *[Panama City Radio]* ... 15
Striking Teachers Meet With Education Minister *[Panama City TV]* ... 15
Poll on U.S. Troops on Bases After 1999 *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 16 Sep]* ... 16

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Government Launches Reform of Financial Sector *[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 14 Sep]* ... 17
Rebel Leader Denies Plotting Against Menem *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* ... 17
Solicitor General Resigns for Personal Reasons *[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 14 Sep]* ... 17
* Decline in Public Sector Investment Reported *[CLARIN 5 Aug]* ... 17

Brazil

Uruguayan President Lacalle Arrives in Brasilia *[Madrid EFE]* ... 18
Lacalle Criticizes Cuban Regime *[Madrid EFE]* ... 18
Collor Discusses African Trip, Other Topics *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 14 Sep]* ... 18
Comments on Mozambique Project *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 13 Sep]* ... 19
Collor on Objective of National Agreement *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* ... 19
Government Preparing Another Economic Package *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 14 Sep]* ... 20
Economy Minister Says Inflation Under Control *[Brasilia Radio]* ... 21
Gas Shortage Affects Industry in Rio de Janeiro *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* ... 21
Incident Between Passarinho, Vice President Over *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 15 Sep]* ... 21
Remains of Political Prisoners Exhumed *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* ... 21

Chile

Soviet Ambassador on Pinochet Trip to Moscow *[Santiago Radio]* ... 22
Defense Minister Comments on Pinochet's Remarks *[Santiago Radio]* ... 22
Justice Minister on Amending Amnesty Law *[Santiago Radio]* ... 22
Further Reportage on Arrest of FPMR Leader ... 23
Minister Denies Harassment *[Santiago Radio]* ... 23
MMR Announces Legal Actions *[Santiago Radio]* ... 23
FPMR Rejects Government Support *[Santiago Radio]* ... 23
Communists Complain About Incident *[Santiago Radio]* ... 24
Government Files Charges in Guzman Murder *[Santiago Radio]* ... 24
Minister Seeks Investigation *[Santiago Radio]* ... 24
FPMR Denies Ties With Guzman Case *[Madrid EFE]* ... 25
Lawyer Appeals in Murder of British Journalist *[Santiago Radio]* ... 25
* PS President Views Elections, Politics *[ERCILLA 14 Aug]* ... 25

Colombia

Possible Sale of Oil to Cuba Under Discussion *[Madrid EFE]* ... 27

Government To Announce Peace Talks Recess *[Bogota Radio]* 27
Roundup of Guerrilla Activities 9-15 Sep *[EL NUEVO SIGLO, etc]* 27

Paraguay

Government To 'Intensify' Contacts With USSR *[ABC COLOR 14 Sep]* 28
Congress Rejects Executive Branch Veto *[ABC COLOR 15 Sep]* 28
Newspapers Condemn IBR President's Removal *[ABC COLOR 15 Sep, etc.]* 29

Peru

Communique Issued on Border Problem With Ecuador *[Madrid EFE]* 29
Rio Group Guarantees Accepted *[Madrid EFE]* 30
Government Creates Foreign Debt Committee *[EXPRESO 8 Sep]* 30
Military To Serve on Strategic Companies' Boards *[EL COMERCIO 5 Sep]* 31
Bank Employees in BCCI Investigation Threatened *[EXPRESO 9 Sep]* 31
Peasant Patrols Protect Agricultural Production *[Lima TV]* 31
* 'Power in Peru' Evaluated in Annual Survey 32
* General Overview *[CARETAS 12 Aug]* 32
* Results Published *[DEBATE Jul-Sep]* 33
* Government Reorganizes Social Development Fund *[EL PERUANO 16 Aug]* 39

Uruguay

Bank Against Granting USSR $80 Million Loan *[EL PAIS 11 Sep]* 40
PCU Resolution on Proposal To Change Name *[BUSQUEDA 12 Sep]* 40

Venezuela

Malaysian Industry Ministry Delegation Visits *[Caracas TV]* 40
* Details of Electoral Reform Law Presented *[EL UNIVERSAL 9 Aug]* 40
* Luis Pinerua Ordaz Pleads For AD Unity *[EL UNIVERSAL 9 Aug]* 41
* Carlos Canache Mata on Corruption, Elections *[EL UNIVERSAL 12 Aug]* 42

Peruvian, Ecuadoran Troop Withdrawal Urged

PY1609220491 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1950 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Brasilia, 16 Sep (EFE)—The Brazilian Foreign Ministry reported today that the delegates of the United States, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile have asked the Ecuadoran and Peruvian Governments to withdraw their troops from their common border to prevent bloodshed.

The statement signed by the four guarantor countries of the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol, which was released today by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry, says:

"The guarantor countries of the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol—Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and the United States—concerned over the increase of tensions in the Ecuadoran-Peruvian border zone, met at the Itamaraty Palace on 15 September 1991.

"On behalf of friendship in the Americas and as a contribution to continental peace they decided to release the following statement:

"The guarantor countries, in accordance with their special responsibility and interests, are seeking jointly and with great effort to facilitate understanding between the two friendly countries, and to eliminate the current tension.

"The guarantor countries urge the two parties to adopt the necessary measures to peacefully solve the problem, including the immediate withdrawal of military troops in order to avoid the possibility of bloodshed.

"The guarantor countries call on the two parties to act jointly and on a friendly basis to seek an immediate final and lasting solution to this issue, as has been established in prior agreements by the two parties.

"The guarantor countries call on the parties to keep in mind their responsibilities in accordance with the principles in the OAS Charter, especially Article 5 (a), (c), and (g) of the charter.

"The guarantor countries offer their good offices to contribute in the most appropriate manner to facilitate and accelerate a mutually acceptable solution."

Meeting on Central American Parliament Ends

PA1309040091 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] The second preparatory meeting of the Central American Parliament ended here on Tuesday with a commitment on the part of the six countries to form the regional organization.

Honduran Deputy Manuel Acosta Bonilla said that the integration of the six countries will undoubtedly strengthen the future work to be carried out by the regional parliament.

[Begin Bonilla recording] The topic of the Central American Parliament was discussed at the plenary meeting held this afternoon. It was agreed to form a parliamentary representative commission which will visit these countries to see how we can help to promote a definitive decision for their integration in Central America. [end recording]

Salvadoran Vice President Francisco Merino adjourned this meeting, which was termed significant for the upcoming installation of the Parliament on 28 October. Merino underscored the achievements of this meeting of vice presidents of the area.

[Begin Merino recording] We are filled with optimism and hope in view of the extraordinary progress achieved in the integration process, which we now view as an irreversible reality. In this second preparatory meeting of San Salvador, we have achieved notable progress. The work commissions have reached a consensus, which makes feasible the installation of this important regional political forum on 28 October in Guatemala City. [end recording]

Toward this end, the deputies have agreed to install the parliament on 28 October in Guatemala City and to establish its permanent official headquarters in Esquipulas. The event closing this second preparatory meeting of the Central American Parliament was attended by Central American deputies and by Vinicio Cerezo, former president of Guatemala, and Jose Azcona de Hoyo, former president of Honduras.

Cuba

GRANMA Editorial Prominent in Foreign Press

FL1609163591 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Last Saturday's editorial in GRANMA, outlining Cuba's position of principles in the current international situation, has had extensive repercussions in many parts of the world. In Mexico, practically all news sources, including radio and television, have reported the editorial in their newscasts. The newspaper EL DIA published the editorial in its totality, and carried an extensive article entitled "Cuba Denounces Possible U.S. Invasion." In Spain, the 11th International Congress of Theologians demanded that the Cuban people be allowed political freedom without foreign meddling and the closing declaration of the congress pointed out that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Cuba should be concurrent with the closing of the Yankee base in Guantanamo and the end of the economic embargo against Cuba.

Exiled Group Supports Transition to Democracy

PA1609175591 Paris AFP in Spanish 1230 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Madrid, 16 Sep (AFP)—The Cuban Liberal Union (Union Liberal Cubana), the opposition organization in exile, on 16 September sent a communique to AFP's offices in Madrid saying it "supports the creation of the Cuban Democratic Coalition on the island and reiterates its will to continue collaborating inside and outside of Cuba on its main goal to find a peaceful transition to democracy."

The communique says "it is time to form a united political front with the opposition movements inside and outside Cuba that is capable of providing reasonable and moderate proposals and solutions to end the dictatorship without producing the bloodbath with which Castro threatens our people."

The communique concludes by saying that the Cuban Liberal Union "salutes the effort of those who have struggled for liberty in Cuba and who have been able to overcome their differences in favor of national interests. The Union invites all Cubans to follow the example of these patriots."

CTC To Promote PCC Congress Resolutions

FL1609162591 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] In the capital, Pedro Ross Leal, secretary general of the Cuban Workers Federation [CTC], has called for the conversion of grass roots laborers assemblies into a framework for the implementation of resolutions to be adopted by the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba Congress to be held 10 October. Ross explained the special significance of these assemblies, especially at this time, and said that they should be well prepared so that the dialogues are the most beneficial.

Throughout the whole country from October to January, CTC evaluation assemblies will meet to analyze resolutions adopted by the 16th CTC Congress, the progress of workers with previous plans, and the completion of the commander in chief's directives for the special period.

During the CTC Provincial Committee meeting in the City of Havana, Jorge Lezcano, first party secretary of the capital, emphasized the leadership role of the CTC in the political enlightenment of workers given the current situation.

Castros Selected Delegates to PCC Congress

PA1609131891 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0335 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Havana, 15 Sep (NOTIMEX)—On 15 September Cuban President Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), was elected delegate to the Fourth PCC Congress, representing the Province of Santiago de Cuba.

At the deferred assembly held on 15 September in the Heredia Theater in the Province of Santiago de Cuba, 940 km from Havana, Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers received the total number of votes and was unanimously appointed delegate. This is the fourth time Castro will be part of the delegation from Santiago de Cuba to the PCC congress.

Army General Raul Castro was elected delegate to the summit of Cuban communists during a session of the 10th partisan conference of the eastern army. Raul Castro, Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and second secretary of the PCC Central Committee, will be on the list of 18 delegates elected through secret and direct votes during the meeting.

The communists of the eastern army, which is based in Santiago de Cuba, will be represented at the fourth PCC Congress by 29 members of the Armed Forces, 11 of whom have been elected through direct votes.

The participants in the meeting held in the Province of Holguin, 700 km from Havana, agreed to communicate to President Castro the "steadfast" determination "of the military forces to save the fatherland, socialism, and the revolution."

Fidel Castro and his brother Raul are both from Santiago de Cuba and will be delegates for that province to the upcoming congress, which will take place in that same province on 10 October.

More on Fidel Castro Election

FL1609145391 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] [Begin first unidentified speaker recording] Fidel Castro Ruz, 280 votes. [applause] [end recording]

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro will head the 73 delegates elected by the Santiago de Cuba Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Provincial Assembly to attend the

Fourth PCC Congress. The provincial delegation also includes Politburo members Esteban Lazo Hernandez, Juan Almeida Bosque, and Vilma Espin Guillot, Division General Senen Casas Regueiro, and Moncada heroine Melba Hernandez. The delegation is composed of 122 party members; 73 selected today, 37 previously selected by direct elections, and 12 from the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] and MININT [Ministry of the Interior].

The provincial assembly also selected by direct and secret vote 31 Central Committee precandidates in accordance with their revolutionary merits.

The assembly also approved several resolutions, the first in support of the Cuban position on principles published in the GRANMA editorial.

[Begin second unidentified speaker recording in progress] We want to tell our commander in chief, to tell our people, that this heroic city of Santiago de Cuba, fountainhead of our historic traditions, is ready to defend the fatherland, is ready to defend the revolution, is ready to defend our socialism. We offer, first of all, our hearts, our fists, our work, and everything (?else we have). [end recording]

The assembly recounted prominent economic, politic, and social accomplishments in the region since 1986, citing the 1,500 million pesos in general investments, and specifically the construction of facilities linked to the celebration of the Fourth PCC Congress, the 11th Pan-American Games, the food program, tourism, and public health.

The meeting took place in the Heredia Theater, which is in its preparatory phases and will provide a dignified stage for the foremost event of the Cuban communists starting 10 October.

Tenth Eastern Army Elects Raul

FL1609162891 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] The deferred session of the 10th Eastern Army party conference has selected Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee and FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] minister, as delegate to the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress.

Party members also selected by direct and secret vote 18 delegates to the foremost meeting of the Cuban communists. Another 11 comrades from 11 prominent units had already been selected by direct elections to integrate the Eastern Army delegation. Five candidates were also selected for the PCC Central Committee.

The conference adopted as its first resolution the total support of the Eastern Army soldiers to the GRANMA editorial in which Cuba vows to never be handed over or sold out to the United States. The younger generation ratified their commitment at the conference.

[Begin Raul Castro recording] We want to leave behind a country of steadfast men, of men with a star on their forehead, as Marti taught, not of cowards subjugated by the imperialist neighbor. [end recording]

Havana on Party Assemblies, Congress Delegates

FL1609131591 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] The provincial assemblies of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] of Havana City, Santiago de Cuba, Las Tunas, and the Eastern Army in Holguin have held deferred sessions which concluded the preparatory proceedings for the Fourth PCC Congress.

During the meeting, Havana City communists expressed their commitment to defend the sovereignty and principles of the revolution and emphasized that Cuba will never accept being handed over or sold to the United States.

Eight of the delegate nominees did not obtain the required 51 percent of the votes, therefore a new slate and open voting was implemented. Finally, all 241 delegates were elected. They will join 110 directly elected delegates, and FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] and MININT [Ministry of the Interior] delegates, to integrate the biggest provincial delegation to the PCC Congress. The average age of Havana's delegation is 45 years and the average PCC membership surpasses 14 years; 59 percent work in production, research, services, and teaching. Also selected at the meeting were 97 Central Committee precandidates.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] I deeply believe that all of us agree that we can feel very happy with the course of these proceedings that end today to select our province's delegates to the congress and the Central Committee precandidates. I know I speak not only for Havana's communists but for all its residents when I say that Fidel and the PCC leadership can count on all of us in this battle and any other battle [applause] for the defense of the revolution, the motherland, and socialism. Socialism or death. Fatherland or death. We will win. [applause] [end recording]

Fidel Attends Mexican, Venezuelan Receptions

FL1709121091 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has attended a reception hosted by Mexican Ambassador Mario Moya Palencia in honor of the 181st anniversary of the Dolores uprising as well as a reception hosted by Venezuelan Foreign Minister Armando Duran at the Venezuelan Embassy.

Commander Fidel Castro and the Venezuelan foreign minister attended the Mexican reception together. They were accompanied on both occasions by Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban officials, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba.

Escalona Receives Canadian Parliamentarians

FL1609185391 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] This morning, Juan Escalona Reguera, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, greeted the Canadian parliamentary delegation from Ontario that is visiting Cuba. After welcoming the delegation, Escalona gave a detailed description of Cuba's current situation and our government's priority on development, particularly in the food program, tourism, and pharmaceuticals. He also mentioned the approaching celebration of the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba Congress.

The members of the Canadian delegation expressed their personal interest in contributing to Cuba's progress and the anticipation with which Canadian investors seek to reach agreements with Cuba. Escalona, pointed out how favorable an increase in Canadian tourism would be for Cuba and highlighted the fact that this visit is in itself a gesture of solidarity toward the Cuban people.

The Canadian parliamentary delegation arrived in Cuba yesterday in response to an invitation by the Cuban Institute for Friendship With the Peoples.

Malmierca Receives Swedish, Barbadian Envoys

FL1409020091 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Sep 91

[Text] This morning Juan Almeida Bosque, vice president of the Council of State, received in solemn ceremony Mrs. Karen (Ola Hertonson), who presented her credentials as ambassador from the Kingdom of Sweden. Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca Peoli was also in attendance. Accompanying the Swedish ambassador were Mr. Thor Olog Skug and Johana Skug, both second secretaries.

Also this afternoon, Comrade Juan Almeida Bosque, vice president of the Council of State, received in solemn ceremony Besley Maycock, who presented his credentials as ambassador for Barbados. Also participating in the ceremony was Isidoro Malmierca, foreign minister.

No Changes in Tripartite Oil Agreement Foreseen

FL1609185291 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1625 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Today, the Venezuelan delegation headed by Armando Duran laid flower wreaths at the Jose Marti Monument in the Plaza of the Revolution and at the Simon Bolivar house in Old Havana. The Venezuelan delegation arrived yesterday in Havana and will stay for three days. The delegation was officially invited by the Cuban Government.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Armando Duran said that the tripartite agreement between Venezuela, the Soviet Union, and Cuba regarding oil supplies to the island will continue as written. Armando Duran added that his country will continue to promote changes in the tense relations between the United States and Cuba.

The tripartite oil agreement states that Venezuela will ship crude oil to Cuba as part of an exchange agreement with the USSR in order to reduce shipping costs of oil to Cuba from the Soviet Union.

Mexican Science Official Begins Visit

FL1309175491 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] The director of communications of the Mexican National Council for Science and Technology, Conasyt, is visiting our country at the invitation of the Center for Scientific and Technical Dissemination of the Cuban Academy of Sciences. Our reporter Teresita Huerta has interviewed him for this program.

[Begin recording] [Huerta] With respect to work in scientific dissemination and the influence this work can have on the popularization or application of scientific achievements in Mexico, what are Conasyt's goals?

[Unidentified Conasyt official] Well, currently Conasyt of Mexico, which is a decentralized body subordinate to the Secretariat of Planning and Budget in Mexico, is now developing new criteria in order to have a national scope as a coordinating body for these actions. This means, well, that we are now implementing some programs that will bring this knowledge to all sectors of society.

[Huerta] With respect to cooperation with Cuba, what specifically could be done in this field?

[Unidentified Conasyt official] Well, I think a lot can be done in that regard, because you really have done very highly thought-of work in the field of science, and in this case, the joint projects Cuba and Conasyt are carrying out deal with extremely important subjects which concern both our countries. [end recording]

Official on Possible Support From Guyana

PA1309151791 Paris AFP in Spanish 2359 GMT 12 Sep 91

[Text] Georgetown, 12 Sep (AFP)—Relations between Cuba and Guyana as defined by the bilateral commission that concluded its annual meeting in Georgetown 12 September might reportedly provide substantial support to Fidel Castro's regime, which is experiencing harsh economic problems, the Cuban delegates said before returning to their country.

Members of the delegation led by Ernesto Melendez Bachs, minister of the State Commission for Economic Cooperation, said in informal talks that the Cuban difficulties are due in large part to U.S. pressure on the Soviet Union to stop all assistance to the Caribbean island. The persons who made these remarks requested their names not be disclosed.

One delegate went as far as referring to the "merciless pressure" that Washington exerts over any Latin American or Caribbean nation that tries to help Cuba. The same

source added that during last month's Ibero-American summit held in Mexico with the participation of Latin American leaders, the king of Spain, and the Portuguese president, Castro's analyses coincided with those of many other leaders concerning the U.S. Administration's wishes to isolate Cuba from the rest of the world.

"The government of President George Bush is seeking support from all countries to end Fidel Castro's regime," the delegate added.

Sources close to the Cuban-Guyanese negotiations stated that at times the Havana delegates gave the impression that Cuba was reportedly preparing to adopt measures in favor of private enterprise.

The daily STABROEK newspaper quoted Melendez Bachs, who reportedly said Cuba considered Guyana as "an alternative" for making up the decrease in assistance from the Soviets and the former eastern bloc.

Firm Management Sentenced for Economic Crime

FL1609162691 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] The Third Section of the City of Havana's People's Tribunal has sentenced Raul Rodriguez Perez, assistant service manager of the De La Lisa cafeteria, to 18 years imprisonment for embezzlement and bribery after the completion of an audit.

Commercial manager Jose A. Garcia Campillo, as well as Eduardo Morales Pri and Jose Tobuada Jimenez, both administrators, were sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, while the rest of the accused received sentences of between five and 12 years.

Seven cars, large amounts of money, numerous household electric appliances, and three houses were some of the items seized due to criminal activities. Lack of material and financial resource supervision, in addition to rising deficits of more than 604,000 pesos between January and October of last year were a few of the consequences of the public prosecutor's investigation of the De La Lisa enterprise.

Bahamas

'Intolerable Level' of Illegal Haitians Discussed

FL1309173191 Nassau Bahamas Radio Network in English 1700 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] Talks are continuing between Bahamian and Haitian Government officials as efforts are made to resolve the illegal immigrant problem experienced by the Bahamas. As the talks began at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, The Honorable Sir Clement Maynard told his Haitian counterpart, Madame Marie-Denise Fabien Jean-Louis that the number of Haitians here illegally is at an intolerable level and that the situation cannot be allowed to continue.

He went on to explain how the illegal immigrants are putting a strain on the country's health and educational services and subsequently on our limited economic resources. While Mr. Maynard spoke frankly about the situation he was sympathetic saying the Bahamas has championed the cause of Haiti for some time and has attempted to encourage the international community to render necessary assistance. He concluded his remarks by saying that it is up to both the Bahamas and Haiti to devise a formula that will lessen the number of illegal Haitian nationals in the Bahamas as quickly as possible and to possibly explore cooperation in trade, tourism, and agriculture.

Barbados

Opposition Campaigns To 'Bring Down' Government

FL1609200291 Bridgetown CANA in English 1752 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Sept 16, CANA—The opposition Barbados Labour Party (BLP), stepping up attacks on Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford for the economic crisis facing the island, vowed on Sunday night to lead a campaign to bring down the government.

"I am willing, like other right-minded people in my party, to provide the vehicle and the strength with which we will topple this government constitutionally before the five years are up," BLP leader Henry Forde told a public meeting. Forde told the meeting in the southern fishing town of Oistins, that Sandiford had shown "a ruthless display of naked power" in the way he had extracted an eight percent pay cut from civil servants.

Sandiford last week said the alternative to the pay cut was devaluation of the Barbados dollar. However, when he announced on Saturday night that a majority of civil servants had voted for the pay cut, Sandiford told reporters he was in no position to guarantee there would be no devaluation. BLP parliamentarian Louis Tull, a former attorney general, said the pay cut was illegal and promised the government a tough fight when it seeks to legislate the pay cut on Tuesday. The BLP launched a series of islandwide public meetings three weeks ago to present its position on the economic crisis which has sent Barbados to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for balance of payments assistance.

At Tuesday's sitting of the House of Assembly, Sandiford, the minister of finance, is expected to outline measures related to the IMF stabilization programme. Sandiford's Democratic Labour Party (DLP) was re-elected for a second five-year term in January.

NATION newspaper columnist and former BLP parliamentarian Ezra Alleyne called on Monday for Sandiford's resignation, joining the BLP, the doctors' union, and several callers to daily radio talk shows. Alleyne, a constitutional lawyer, said Sandiford's shifts in position regarding devaluation, and his failure to protect the balance of payments position were sufficient reasons for him to go.

"(Sandiford) has gone from a definite "there will be no devaluation" to "there will not be devaluation at this time" to "devaluation is not the preferred option," Alleyne wrote in his NATION column. Alleyne suggested there was evidence Sandiford was aware of the deteriorating foreign reserves position but had failed to act. "He must therefore take full political responsibility for the economic disaster which has befallen Barbados."

Alleyne said it was high time Barbadians called for Sandiford's resignation, promising to give advice on Tuesday concerning how this can be peacefully achieved.

Dominica

Soviet Pullout From Cuba Could Hurt Tourism

FL1409004791 Bridgetown CANA in English 1914 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Sept 13, CANA—Opposition parliamentarian and Dominica Labour Party leader, Michael Douglas, is worried that a planned pullout of Soviet troops from Cuba may impact negatively on some tourism industries in the Caribbean. Douglas, reacting to reports that soldiers based in Havana will soon be recalled home, said:

"I think that it forces Cuba to re-look at its geopolitical position and attempt to strengthen economic ties with the region and with Latin America, and perhaps we expect them to redouble their efforts in tourism to our disadvange."

He added that Cuba would probably now try to take more seriously its relationship with Europe, "particularly new fortress Europe in 1992."

"All in all for us, the fact that Cuba is being brought under more pressure is certainly not to our benefit because we have a very key player, well resourced player coming into the field to tackle us in tourism, at a time when we need to strengthen tourism to be able to sustain the gap that is going to occur when the banana industry declines," Douglas said.

The DLP leader is also concerned that Cuban scholarships being given to Dominican students through his party will suffer from cutbacks of Soviet aid to Cuba.

"In the new financial position, Cuba will probably be unable to offer the kind of assistance they've been offering us in the past, and that might be difficult," Douglas remarked.

Haiti

International Support on Dominican Issue Urged

FL1709001191 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Excerpts] In a message on the occasion of the feast of the Holy Cross in Croix-des-Missions, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide appealed to the international community to put pressure on Dominican President Joaquin Balaguer to negotiate with the Haitian Government.

The Haitian head of state called on the international community, especially the International Labor Office, the United Nations, the OAS, and everyone struggling for democracy and respect for human rights, to cooperate with the Haitian people in enforcing the rights of the Haitian deportees.

Father Aristide acknowledged that the Dominican Government has the right to repatriate Haitians working in the Dominican Republic. He expressed the belief, however, that international regulations forbid violation of the workers' rights. He therefore called on the international community to demonstrate solidarity with the Haitian people. He said that the Haitian people would nevertheless continue to respect the rights of Dominicans living in Haiti.

[Aristide] "The Dominican Government is independent and sovereign. This means it is free to make whatever decisions it chooses. It has the right to repatriate Haitian workers. We the Haitian Government acknowledge and respect the Dominican authorities' right to do so if this is their desire. As Haitian president, I maintain, however, that international law prohibits the abuse of the Haitian workers' rights in the Dominican sugarcane fields.

"We here in Haiti are independent and, although we are trying to foster solidarity between the two sister republics, which are like two wings of the same bird, we acknowledge [words indistinct] as people who believe in God, in view of our faith in our country and in its patriotic people...[changes thought] It must be acknowledged that the Dominican sugar factories are further enriching the rich. The rich are enjoying themselves on the slave labor of Haitians. It is, unfortunately, not these Haitians who are being repatriated. It is another group of Haitians.

"We are not naive; we understand. The Dominicans have become prosperous on the toil of those Haitians who are arriving in Bon Repos. Those who are still over there being exploited in the sugarcane fields live in sub-human conditions."

Father Aristide called upon all wealthy Haitians, and those with special knowledge and experience, to plan land redistribution in Haiti in compliance with the law so that Haitians arriving from the Dominican Republic can receive the tools and fertilizer they need to set up irrigated farming. [passage omitted]

[Aristide] "They do not agree with me, but I will say it again: I cannot condone the wealthy of Haiti hoarding their wealth, without contributing to our unity by assisting these Haitian men and women when they enter Haiti." [applause]

In conclusion, President Aristide said: We are a proud people, a people who believe in God, and God does not tolerate indifference to human suffering.

Trade Unions Protest Poor Living Conditions

FL1609183191 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Some 32 trade union movements, including several mass organizations, staged a demonstration this morning to protest the poor living conditions of the Haitians repatriated from the Dominican Republic. The demonstrators gathered in front of Saint Jean-Bosco Church and are walking to the Dominican Consulate. Our reporter Clarens is on the scene and has this report.

[Clarens] The demonstrators started the march on schedule, an hour ago, in front of Saint Jean-Bosco Church, and will walk past Bel-Air and Port-au-Prince Cathedral, along Bonne-Foi Street and probably down to Grand-Rue. They will then march along the Casernes Street up to the National Palace and the ministries area and finally past the Dominican Embassy in Port-au-Prince.

About 1,000 people, perhaps less, are participating in this demonstration staged to call the national authorities' attention to the fate of the Haitians who have been repatriated from the Dominican Republic and are wandering jobless and homeless throughout the country. The demonstrators also want to promote the awareness of Health Ministry authorities to the health situation at Bon-Repos Center. They are also denouncing an imperialist plot hatched by Balaguer in order to destabilize the current government. The demonstrators staged today's march to avert this plot.

Only some 1,000 people are in the streets, marching to the drum beat and to the sound of the vaksin [bamboo musical instrument], which they are playing to rally more demonstrators. [passage omitted]

Montserrat

Deputy Premier Resigns; Cabinet Collapse Feared

FL1609142591 Bridgetown CANA in English 2123 GMT 15 Sep 91

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, Sept 15, CANA—Deputy Chief Minister Benjamin Chalmers resigned on Sunday, raising serious doubts about the government's ability to survive.

Chalmer's resignation, amid differences with Chief Minister John Osborne, left the ruling People's Liberation Movement (PLM) with three seats in the seven-member legislature.

Chalmers said he would cross the floor if a sitting of Parliament scheduled for Monday goes ahead as planned.

Chief Minister Osborne met British Governor David Naylor and Attorney-General Stanley Moore on Sunday, amid reports that he was planning to call an election to forestall the collapse of his government.

Moore declined comment on the talks, saying an official statement would be issued on Monday. One political source said October 8 was a possible election date.

Chalmers, who also quit the ruling party, said his resignation was triggered by an attempt by Osborne to transfer him from the Ministry of Communications and Works.

The months-old rift between Chalmers and Osborne deepened last week amid a dispute over payment of port charges to a shipping company owned by the chief minister.

The life of the present Parliament was due to expire next August.

Montserrat is a self-governing British crown colony.

Governor Dissolves Legislature

FL1709005991 Bridgetown CANA in English 2007 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Plymouth, Montserrat, Sept 16, CANA—British Governor David Naylor dissolved Montserrat's legislature on Monday, paving the way for general elections for October 8. Nomination day was set for September 30.

The expected announcement of elections, one year before the term of the present government was due to expire, came after the ruling People's Liberation Movement (PLM) lost its parliamentary majority with the weekend resignation of Deputy Chief Minister Benjamin Chalmers.

Chalmers' resignation followed a months-old rift with Chief Minister John Osborne. It was triggered by Osborne's decision to switch Chalmers from the Ministry of Communications and Works to the Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, and Lands. With Chalmers' departure, the PLM was left controlling three seats in the seven-member legislature.

Close to 7,000 voters are expected to cast ballots in the poll, expected to present the stiffest challenge for the PLM which has been in power here since 1978. At least two other groups—the official opposition National Democratic Party and the concerned citizens movement—are expected to field candidates.

El Salvador

FMLN Calls UN Peace Talks 'Positive'

PA1709041691 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0214 GMT 17 Sep 91

[Text] New York, 16 Sep (NOTIMEX)—The General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), on the night of 16 September, described as "very, very positive" its first round of talks with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"This first meeting has been very, very positive," Commander Francisco Jovel Urquilla said as he left the UN headquarters after three hours and 20 minutes of talks.

Shafik Handal, another commander of the Salvadoran guerrilla organization, said that "the topics we are addressing are complex, but we are undoubtedly progressing."

The FMLN leaders who first met with the secretary general and later with his representative, Alvaro de Soto, refused to provide details, stating that they have to maintain the agreement on confidentiality they reached with Perez de Cuellar.

Before the meeting with the FMLN leaders, Perez de Cuellar met for 45 minutes with Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, who arrived in New York from Mexico, where he met with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari on 15 September.

Cristiani also stated that he wanted to maintain the confidentiality of the so-called "talks for rapprochement." He only indicated that he will continue the talks on 17 September.

The invitation issued by Perez de Cuellar had called for both sides to continue separate talks with him until 17 September. Nevertheless, diplomatic sources believe that the UN secretary general will ask both sides to stay in New York as long as he feels is necessary.

Last week, De Soto said that Perez de Cuellar would present to both sides a number of ideas to end the stalemate in the negotiations, revitalize them, and move the process toward a cease-fire that will end the 11-year conflict.

The guerrillas demand that the government establish a national commission with the participation of all the country's political forces, including the FMLN, to decide on the process to purge, reduce, and reorganize the Armed Forces.

It is not known when the talks will resume on 17 September, but it is believed it will be in the afternoon because the 46th UN General Assembly will open in the morning.

Commentary on Right-Wing Pressure on Cristiani

PA1709030991 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 14 Sep 91

[Station commentary: "The Extreme Right Has Twisted Cristiani's Arm"]

[Text] The Armed Forces High Command, showing bad faith and lack of political goodwill, has not supported the delegation that Cristiani will take to New York. The people are clearly seeing how Alfredo Cristiani and General Rene Emilio Ponce are dumping their responsibilities as representatives of one of the sides in conflict at a time of unprecedented opportunity for working, at the highest level, for national reconciliation. The extreme right has twisted Alfredo Cristiani's arm and this is how he will travel to New York, unaccompanied by the military leaders, who are the power behind the throne.

The Military High Command keeps betting on war, erroneously hoping to defeat the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] militarily. It is being spurred on by the U.S. promise to continue to give aid to an army that kills priests and nuns.

Cristiani is not going to New York with the decision to put an end to the conflict. Cristiani has no proposal to present. He will just repeat his refusal to resolve the two armies' problem. Frankly, the problem is not the rank of the government representatives, the problem is that neither the Armed Forces nor the oligarchic groups want to seriously negotiate, thus turning the negotiations into another rudiment of war and keeping the Armed Forces above civilian society.

It is necessary to negotiate to break the military influence. Negotiations are the only viable and reasonable alternative for reconciliation of the nation. In view of the rejection of the proposal for the total demilitarization of society, it is necessary to form a new Army consisting of an improved Armed Forces and the National Army for Democracy. This integrated Army would be the state's new institutional force. The Armed Forces must rid themselves of men who made a business of war and of those who continue criminal conduct.

The Armed Forces must change their military doctrine and training and drastically reduce their strength. The FMLN has made proposals and will present proposals calling for a condensed agenda once the reason for the deadlock, the Armed Forces, is resolved in the United Nations. This is why we urge Alfredo Cristiani, as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, to adopt the historic decision of rectifying his position and of being realistic to contribute toward pulling the country out of a trap and into peace.

Cristiani Delivers Independence Day Speech

PA1o09142291 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2132 GMT 15 Sep 91

[Text] San Salvador, 15 Sep (NOTIMEX)—The official speech delivered on 15 September to commemorate the

170th anniversary of Salvadoran independence centered on the peace issue and the progress made in the negotiating process to end 11 years of civil war.

During the inauguration ceremonies of the traditional celebrations held in a San Salvador park, President Alfredo Cristiani said that despite achievements reached at the negotiating table, "national reconciliation cannot happen overnight."

"El Salvador is entering a new stage in which the differences among sectors can be discussed and resolved in a civilized and respectful manner, rejecting all expressions of violence as primitive and inefficient," he said.

The president delivered his speech hours before his trip to the United Nations, where bilateral consultations will begin tomorrow, 16 September, with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who will also hold talks with the rebel commanders. The New York meeting—considered crucial to ending the armed conflict between the various political and social sectors—will try to speed up the talks that have been bogged down in the important army and cease-fire topics.

"The 15th of September is a symbol of freedom and independence and we want to tell the people that their sacrifices are producing results in the peace efforts," Cristiani said after reiterating his government's willingness to make progress at the negotiating table. "We will never be the enemies of our adversaries, but we will never violate the principle of law and democratic institutions. We are willing to do everything to attain peace," he said.

Clearly referring to the statements made days earlier by the opposition, which criticized the president for ruling out a direct meeting with the guerrillas at the United Nations, Cristiani made a call "to face the end of the war with rationality and goodwill."

After praising the role of the Armed Forces, he said: "In the stage marking the conclusion of the conflict, the conciliatory forces are leading those forces of intolerance and hatred. Therefore we must reflect and increase our confidence in the future."

During the civilian and military independence day parades, President Cristiani was accompanied by his wife Margarita Llach, top military leaders, members of his cabinet, and delegates of the diplomatic corps accredited to the country.

Guatemala

Belize s Prime Minister Cancels 'Surprise Visit'

PA1709004791 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 16 Sep 91 p 3

[Report by Alex Cocon]

[Text] Belizean Prime Minister George Price canceled a surprise visit to Guatemala today, due to events that unfolded during the week of 9-15 September. These events ended with President Jorge Serrano canceling his intended historic visit to Belize.

Because of the opposition that was expressed against the Guatemalan leader's planned visit, during a telephone conversation between the two capitals—Guatemala City and Belmopan—an urgent invitation for Price to visit Guatemala was extended to calm the protest that had managed to affect even the cabinet.

The two governments agreed that a prior visit by Price would satisfy the promise made by President Jorge Serrano to be in Belmopan for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of Belizean independence on 21 September.

Price accepted the invitation and immediately preparations were begun to welcome him on 16 September. The prime minister was to stay until the afternoon of 17 September, when he would return to Belmopan.

It was the pressure for Serrano to cancel his trip that made him reconsider his visit to Belmopan.

Foreign Minister Arrives

PA1709011691 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1835 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 16 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Belizean Foreign Minister Said Musa arrived on an official visit to Guatemala on 16 September, amid a polemic concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations with the former British colony, which prompted the suspension of Guatemalan President Jorge Serrano's visit to Belmopan.

Musa will meet with Serrano and Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alvaro Arzu to continue negotiations for the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations. [passage omitted]

Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alvaro Arzu told ACAN-EFE that his government maintains its invariable political stance of rapprochement with Belize and is seeking an understanding to resolve the bilateral dispute in accordance with the Guatemalan Constitution.

"The president firmly maintains his goodwill toward correcting past errors and seeking ways to develop close relations with our Belizean brothers, who are pleased with the government's desire to settle the old dispute as soon as possible," he stressed.

Arzu added that the Guatemalan position with regard to Belize is based on real and concrete facts and is intended to overcome all the differences that have been sources of tension for his country.

He accepted the Belizean Government's proposals, such as guaranteeing an outlet to the Atlantic for Guatemala and engaging in the joint exploration and exploitation of the sea bed in Belizean jurisdictional areas.

He also noted the Belizean proposal of permitting the transit of Guatemalan merchandise and its export through Belizean port facilities that could be used by both countries.

Meanwhile, Guatemalan Government spokesman Gonzalo Asturias said that the government's policy of rapprochement with Belize "has not changed at all" and that the cancellation of the president's trip "was just a postponement."

Serrano "heard the Guatemalan people's opinion, but not the opinion of anyone in particular," Asturias said.

The president maintains his firm determination to reach final agreement on the conflict," Asturias stressed. However, he added, any decision must be submitted to the Congress. Then the people must be consulted in a referendum.

Serrano Rejects Foreign Minister's Resignation

PA1709013691 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 13 Sep 91 p 7

[Text] President Jorge Serrano Elias did not accept the resignation of Foreign Minister Alvaro Arzu Irigoyen and fully supported his work as foreign minister.

The president made his decision on 12 September during a Cabinet meeting where Arzu's resignation was announced. It was confirmed that Arzu tendered his resignation as a result of the situation that may be described as tense in the relations between Arzu and Serrano. The situation came to a head when the president failed to inform Arzu about his decision to visit Belize on 19 September on the occasion of the anniversary of the independence granted by the United Kingdom to that territory, which Guatemala has been claiming since the last century.

The strain between Arzu, who was the presidential candidate of the National Vanguard Party in the last elections, and Serrano had been noticed for the past few weeks. Arzu's role has been described as lackluster, something that may hurt his image should he again decide to participate in another electoral campaign.

It was rumored that Arzu was only waiting to attend the ordinary sessions of the UN General Assembly in New York before resigning. The Belize affair hastened the foreign minister's decision to tender his resignation, something he had prepared—as he confessed—since the moment he took office.

The question now is how much longer will he remain at the helm of the Foreign Ministry?

Nicaragua

'Explanation' of President's Veto of Property Law

PA1609201491 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Sep 91 p 6

[Paid advertisement issued by the Presidency: "An explanation of the President's Veto of Bill 133"]

[Text] I. Introduction

It is the president's duty and constitutional responsibility to ensure that the bills he signs into law agree with the Constitution and do not disrupt the country's constitutional order.

Upon studying Bill 133, called the "Bill for the Reestablishment and Stability of Juridical Order in Private, State, and Municipal Property Ownership," sent to me by the National Assembly to be signed into law and enacted, I found that I must make what I feel are well-grounded objections to several of its articles.

Bill 133 encroaches on the president's jurisdiction and public administration authority and affects the coordination and harmony that should exist among government branches.

This bill interferes with the authority of the country's courts legally charged with the administration of justice. In this bill, the National Assembly, with the intention of doing justice—a function for which it has not been empowered—sets standards that leave out contractual clauses by the mere stroke of a law, thus substituting jurisdictional action, which is the exclusive responsibility of the judicial branch, for a legislative act. Although the Constitution gives the Assembly broad authority to establish the text of the Constitution, this power should not be construed to mean permission to exercise functions not attributed by the Constitution to the Assembly but to other organs of the state.

The bill thus attempts to settle a number of problems related to property ownership through large-scale expropriation mechanisms similar to those used by Law 85 and Law 86, which have been rejected by the public and the National Assembly. The fact that these laws have spawned abuses and led to the illegal distribution of state-owned property does not warrant the use of similarly illegal actions to repair the damage. The state can take the proper actions and has at its disposal adequate legal means to remedy the abuses that have been perpetrated.

Bill 133 implies severe economic consequences on the president, for which no preliminary studies of the consequences have been made. The government would face the payment of compensation for the expropriations considered in this bill and the amount of which has not been computed. Without first consulting with the president with regard to budgetary possibilities, the bill also burdens the government with the manner of and terms

for compensating the original owners of the properties, the ownership of which was transferred by Law 85 and Law 86.

The restrictions of the president's authority relative to the administration and disposal of state-owned properties as stipulated by Bill 133 affect the economic policy, privatization, and foreign investment programs that the government is implementing with the support of international organizations.

For these reasons, I must veto and am therefore partially vetoing Bill 133, called the Bill for the Reestablishment of Juridical Order in Private, State, and Municipal Property Ownership. The vetoed articles are 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 22, 25, 29, as well as Chapter 5. The portions mentioned later in this document shall be deleted from the bill either because they are unconstitutional or because they are difficult to enforce. What follows are the specific reasons on which this partial veto is based.

Special Consideration of the Reasons That Obliged This Partial Veto

II. Constitutional Violations

1. Legislative Branch Meddling in the Sphere of the Executive Branch

a. Article 6 of the bill states that the chief executive would have to be previously authorized in each case by rule of the National Assembly to transfer state real estate, companies, and stock. Our national Constitution does not grant this power to the National Assembly. The Constitution states that state branches will have no other authority, power, or jurisdiction than those granted by the Constitution and the law. In this case, there is an attempt, through regular legislative means, to amend the Constitution by establishing a procedure to approve certain actions of the Executive Branch that are in no way contemplated in the Constiiution. In other words, the National Assembly would be giving itself the power to control the executive branch in clear violation of the principle of the independence of state branches. (Violation of Articles 129, 138, and 183 of the Constitution)

b. Article 11 violates the principle of due process recognized by constitutional provisions and international human rights agreements signed by Nicaragua because it establishes the expropriation by operation of law of personal property and real estate of companies established by the regional delegates of the executive branch or autonomous bodies that were dissolved and the assets of which were transferred to private citizens or companies. This expropriation goes beyond the provisions [traspesos] of Law 85 by including other kinds of assets that are transferred for various legal reasons. (Violation of Articles 27 and 46 of the Constitution, Article 7 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, Articles 3 and 26 of the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights, and Article 24 of the American Convention).

c. Articles 14 and 17 of the bill, by declaring illegal all donations or total or partial pardons granted by the state or its institutions in favor of private individuals or corporations since 1 January 1990 in an indiscriminate manner and without establishing a time period, and by annulling by exercise of law the contracts for the rent, use, or enjoyment of assets granted by the state or municipalities, violate constitutional provisions on the jurisdiction of these organizations because the executive branch and the municipalities—the latter in the exercise of municipal autonomy established by the Constitution—may reach any kind of contract within the scope of its jurisdiction. Moreover, attempting to declare illegal or annul by operation of law these contracts that were already made would constitute meddling in the judicial branch, as is noted below. (Violation of Articles 144, 150, 177, and 183 of the Constitution)

d. Article 15 of the bill seriously meddles in the area of public administration by ordering state officials, ministers, directors of state companies, boards of directors and managers of banks of the national financial system, and in general, those who are responsible for handling state or municipality assets, to submit lists of assets and operations, and thus, establishes measures that the executive branch, or the municipalities, as the case may be, through the republic's comptroller general's office, to decide, issue, and execute, in violation of the constitutional principle stating that the review of private documents, accounting books, and their annexes may only be ordered to clarify matters that have been brought up before the courts or for fiscal reasons. (Violation of Articles 26 and 15 of the Constitution)

e. Article 16 of the bill also oversteps the authority of the executive branch and of the municipalities with regard to the management of state and municipal resources. It also ridiculously blocks the use of said resources and this action could paralyze the public and municipal administration. The state branches or the municipalities would not be able to use public buildings, vehicles, office equipment, and other resources necessary to carry out their activities if this disposition were to be implemented. (Violation of Articles 144 and 150 and numerals 12 and 177 of the Constitution)

f. The bill's Article 20 establishes that a general authorization is required to dispose of the state's real estate in the privatization process. The authorization is to be given in accordance with a law that is to be issued at a later date. This norm limits the executive branch's authority on resource regulations and also attempts to regulate the privatization process, thus, affecting the Executive Branch's authority with regard to the government's economic and social policies. (Violation of Articles 129 and 138, numeral 13 and 183 of the Constitution)

g. The bill's Chapter 5 establishes compensations and indemnifications for the original real estate owners, sets a specific use for the resources the government will receive, determines what will and will not be be

returned, and sets the conditions and characteristics of the indemnification certificates. All this without any previous studies, without taking into account the resources that can be used by the executive branch, and without consulting with the latter. Thus, it interferes in the executive branch's area of responsibility as its function is to manage the country's fiscal and economic policy and formulate the national budget. Furthermore, it attempts against the harmonic coordination that must exist between the state branches. (Violation to Articles 129, 144, and 150 and numerals 12, 13, and 151 of the Constitution)

2. Legislative Branch Meddling in the Sphere of the Judicial Branch

The bill's articles 8, 10, 11, 14, and 17 contain dispositions that violate the principle of due process as they legally annul several contracts, donations, and remissions as well as order the cancellation of real estate entries registered at the request of the government or an individual. These dispositions are clear National Assembly's transgressions as they interfere not only with the executive branch but also with the authority of the Judicial Branch. It is the latter's job to know and resolve the validity of such actions and contracts and, if necessary, implement procedures established in existent laws. The execution of the bill's disposition is equivalent, in practice, to the National Assembly taking on judicial functions over private resources without a legal process. (Violation of Articles 158, 159, 160, and 164 of the Constitution)

3. Other Violations of the Constitution

Bill No. 133 contains other dispositions that breach constitutional principles. The constitutional principle of the independence of state branches is violated when Article 5 determines that the Finance Ministry has to manage the state's resources because it is the President of the Republic who must determine the state ministries's jurisdictions. The constitutional principle of nonretroactivity of the law is violated when Article 8 revokes the expropriation of real estate, which has been certified under Law 85, in favor of the state because it would be legislating over past events. The constitutional principle of due process is violated when Articles 9 and 10 order the expropriation of real estate to which Article 9 refers, giving public utility and social interest as reasons because the invoked public utility and social interest do not exist. The constitutional principles of equality before the law is violated when Article 10 suspends the effects of the existent expropriation law, in this case to expropriate, because by suspending and not annulling the expropriation law it establishes unequal and disadvantageous treatment for the people who would be expropriated based on Law 133. The constitutional principle of nonretroactivity of the law is violated when Article 18 establishes purchasing requirements that are different than those originally established by Laws 85 and 88 because it would be legislating over past events. The constitutional principle of independence and the harmony of state branches are violated when the same Article 18 prohibits the transfer of properties purchased under the agrarian reform because this prohibition could seriously jeopardize the executive branch's handling of the agrarian reform program without consulting with it.

III. The Inapplicability of the Law

There are legal and logical contradictions, as well as practical and economic reasons, within the bill itself that make its application difficult.

1. Contradictions in the Law

a. Article 8 of the bill revokes the expropriation, as verified by Law 85, of all properties that were in the process of being legalized by the state or by its institutions, as well as the properties the state administered, which means the state would be prevented from acquiring such property. How can the state then sell the property, according to Bill 133, as if it were the owner? What about the rights of the previous and legitimate owners? This would create legal problems for the executive branch, and if the law were enforced, the executive would have to face amparos and legal actions of all types, both from the beneficiaries of Laws 85 and 86, as well as from the previous owners.

b. Articles 9 and 10 of the bill expropriate in an overall manner, without making any distinction, the properties of all those who acquired them under the protection of Laws 85 and 86, with which it is recognizing them all as legitimate owners regardless of whether they acquired the property in accordance to such laws or without filling the necessary requirements as established by the laws. Here the government would be forced to pay compensation for the recovery of property that may have been illegally acquired, when in strict fairness what should be issued is a legal statement declaring the invalidity of the acquisition and the recovery of state property without having to pay any compensation.

c. According to Articles 9 and 10, the application of Bill 133 would be contradictory and dangerous for the previous owners, who were stripped of their properties by Laws 85, 86, and 88 because, according to this bill, the properties that are expropriated by virtue of the law itself would go directly to the state, which would reserve the right to return them or not to their previous owners. On the contrary, the state, through the same law, puts them up for sale to the same beneficiaries of Laws 85 and 86 when in strict fairness such property should be returned to their previous and legitimate owners. It would be an expropriation with retroactive effects because such properties were never taken away from the state legally, but from their real owners, who have the full right to the property. Likewise, the rights of people, who have already correctly initiated action in the country's courts for the recovery of their possessions, would be adversely affected.

d. Article 10 states that third parties, who may have acquired property, which by virtue of this bill may be expropriated, would not be considered third parties in the registry; this is a violation of the essence of Article 3796 of the Civil Code, which is the spinal column of all mortgage rights and the principle of registry guarantees. What about the mortgage creditors of such properties or any other person having nothing to do with the problem? This would create legal chaos at the registry, which would be impossible to resolve by the Executive Branch.

e. Articles 10 and 12 of the bill establish different appraisal criteria for the same property depending on whether it will be expropriated or whether it will immediately be sold to the same person, whose property was expropriated. This action, besides corrupting the expropriation process and the public benefit intentions that are being argued, would create serious problems for the executive branch because the double appraisal would serve as a basis for the affected person to demand a fair compensation. This law forces the state to pay the real value of the properties to be expropriated, the number of which has not yet been estimated or foreseen.

f. Article 13 of the draft bill is confusing because it does not specify the assets.

g. Articles 20, 22, and 25 of the draft bill attempt to impose the implementation of the resolutions issued by the National Revision Commission that was created by Decree 11-90 as an admnistrative body within the Executive Branch. This constitutes meddling in the sphere of the Executive Branch. It is not possible to order the execution of resolutions issued for other purposes. In this case, the resolutions aim at making recommendations to the chief executive in determining the feasibility of returning the assets involved. (Decree 23-91) The attempt to order the execution of such resolutions constitutes meddling in public administration that undermines an administrative procedure created for other purposes. An administrative act that meets the requirements must be issued in the exercise of an administrative power previously established for that purpose. The document must irrefutably contain the obligatoriness of the commitment mentioned in it. The resolutions of the National Revision Commission do not meet such requirements. It is not possible, a posteriori, to whimsically order the execution of any document because important laws could be violated and its legal nature affected.

h) Article 29 of the draft bill establishes that it is a matter of public order. As this assessment in fact depends on the very nature of the law and not on what the law itself states, I have serious doubts as to the public order character of this law, because in several of its articles it attempts to control or protect personal interests. The term Public Order conveys that the rights therein established are undeniable. How then can we consider undeniable the option of purchase to which the draft bill's Article 12 makes reference to? If we apply this criteria to other individual rights set out in the draft bill we would be faced with a dubious interpretation of the law, and consequently, with problems at the time of its enforcement.

2. Considerations Due To Economic Factors

Upon expropriating those benefited by Laws 85, 86, and 88, their legitimate rights would then be recognized because you can only expropriate one who posses. The current Expropriation Law is not being repealed; it is only being suspended so that it is not applied in those cases. Although draft bill No. 133 establishes that the compensation to be paid for the expropriation should be equal to what the expropriated persons would have paid to purchase the property, the Expropriation Law as well as the International Agreements, incorporated in our Constitution, take into account the concept of just compensation in case of expropriation. Internationally, just compensation is understood as the true value of the property to be expropriated; the Inter-American Human Rights Commision has already ruled on this. Therefore, at the time when this draft bill becomes a law, it must take into account that one of its consequences would be the filing of several petitions for amparo against the aforementioned law, arguing that properties are being expropriated without taking into consideration the Expropriation Law currently in force, and therefore the payment of a just compensation would be demanded. Should these petitions for amparo be accepted by the courts, the state would be obligated to pay such large sums of money, giving way to its total destabilization. What is even more serious, as the massive expropriation would automatically become effective by the mere implementation of the law, the state would also, by the law's enforcement, automatically have the enormous obligation to pay sums of money, which amounts and consequences are unpredictable and which have not even been calculated, and in this regard, the executive branch has not even been consulted.

3. Possibilities of Petitions to be Filed Against the Law.

Should the draft bill be passed with so many unconstitutional flaws, it could be attacked by numberless petitions for amparo and as unconstitutional, by the previous owners as well as by those benefited by Laws 85, 86, and 88 to the extent that the law could hardly be enforced.

IV. Proposal for Drafting Article 31 of the bill

Article 31 of the bill orders the repeal of Laws 85, 86, and 88. Apart from the consequences that this repeal may have, the repeal would eliminate the legal framework under which state or private individuals can file claims for abuses caused by the implementation of these laws. In addition, the repeal is useless because it does not eliminate the rights acquired through these same laws because of the principle of nonretroactivity established in Article 38 of our Constitution.

Within the framework of the will of the executive branch as expressed in Decrees 35 and 36 of 19 August 1991 and

to allow the National Assembly to clarify several concepts that could eventually help correct the abuses allowed under the protection of these laws, I consider it prudent not to repeal these laws while the revision period lasts and, toward this end, I suggest that the bill's Article 31 state the following:

"Article 31, as of 1 July 1992, repeals the transfer of housing and other real estate belonging to the state, Law 85, published in "La Gaceta" official newspaper No. 64 on 30 March 1990; the special legalization of housing and land parcels, Law 86, published in "La Gaceta" official newspaper No. 66 on 3 April 1990; and agrarian protection, Law 88, published in "La Gaceta" official newspaper No. 68 on 5 April 1990."

V. Conclusions

The authority to declare any law unconstitutional is reserved exclusively for the Supreme Court. It is the unavoidable responsibility of the president, however, to obey and enforce the Constitution. This fundamental responsibility both prevents her from approving or signing into law any bill that violates the Constitution and compels her to make this fact known to the National Assembly.

I have at all times repudiated abuses and arbitrary actions. I have personally been the victim of outrages and injustices. I have condemned the abuses perpetrated under the shadow of the transition laws and have publicly demanded that those who illegally took possession of state property correct their offenses by returning the property thus acquired either to the state or to the previous owners, as the case may be. Within my limited legislative powers, I have issued decrees to examine and remedy the abuses committed under the protection of these laws, thus initiating actions to recover state property illegally acquired.

I understand and support the National Assembly representatives' desire for justice, but I will not stand for violation of the Constitution in the name of a state of law. I cannot endorse the undermining of state powers in the name of juridical order. I cannot remain indifferent to the attempt to correct abuses by perpetrating other abuses, all on behalf of justice.

The first principle stated in the government platform drafted by the National Opposition Unity, and which I accepted as a commitment when I agreed to run for president, is to establish a state of law in Nicaragua. According to the Constitution, my most important duty as president is to obey and enforce the Constitution and its bylaws.

This powerful base and these duties natural to my post prevent me from signing into law, but instead compel me to partially veto, Bill 133.

My most important commitment is to the Nicaraguan people, to whom I owe myself. In faithful compliance with this commitment, I am hereby warmly urging the National Assembly to seek with us adequate solutions of local problems, which the Constitution orders us to resolve together in harmony, and of course with protection of God, whose favor I beseech in each of my prayers.

Hondurans Said To Supply Arms to Recontras

PA1609191891 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1600 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] According to reports from Tegucigalpa and northern Nicaragua, former members of the Honduran Armed Forces are involved in arms trafficking activities that have resulted in the rearming of former contra elements known now as recontras.

The arms caches that the contras prepared when they signed the peace agreement with President Violeta Chamorro following the elections have now been opened and the materiel is being sold.

According to unconfirmed reports, some politicians who are opposed to the Chamorro administration and who live in Miami have been supplying money to the recontras. Nicaraguan Minister of the Presidency Antonio Lacayo said last week that it is believed that money is being collected in Miami to purchase weapons for the recontras.

The Mexican news agency NOTIMEX has reported that Chiguin [son of late Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza] is reportedly serving as a link for arms purchased from Israel. Government Minister Carlos Hurtado has said that there is nothing definite regarding the origin of weapons in the hands of the recontras.

Bolivar, a recontra leader, last week told this radio station that the recontras are obtaining the weapons from arms caches that are capable of providing weapons for 22,000 men. The government believes that approximately 80,000 war weapons are in the hands of civilians in Nicaragua.

CIAV-OAS Said To Protect Wounded Recontra

PA1709022291 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Sep 91 p 2

[Report by Martha Marina Gonzalez]

[Text] Esteli—Officials of the CIAV-OAS [International Commission of Support and Verification—Organization of American States] are protecting recontra leader Ernesto Rodriguez, alias El Flaco, at the Pedro Altamirano General Hospital. The recontra leader was wounded during an attack against a policeman in which the youth Marvin Arauz Leiva was killed. The attack took place last Monday in Santa Cruz, 10 km south of this city.

A police spokesman said that the CIAV-OAS officials arranged to have Rodriguez taken to the hospital in La Trinidad. Instead of policemen, several individuals

armed with pistols are guarding the person responsible for the crime perpetrated against Arauz.

With the open complicity of the hospital director, the armed men entered and are staying in the room where the recontra leader, who is responsible for the criminal incident in Esteli, is staying. The people of Esteli demand that the government punish the killers of Arauz.

It was learned that when policemen were conducting investigations, the CPF [Physical Protection Corps] of the hospital attempted to disarm them. It did not take similar action with regard to the recontras, however, and allowed them to remain inside armed.

Sources close to the hospital said that it was the CIAV-OAS officials who authorized the recontras to enter. The recontras frequently visit counterrevolutionary Ernesto Rodriguez. It does not seem as if the authorities will try him because the recontras and the CIAV do not allow policemen to enter his room.

A total of 20 recontras who participated in the killing of Marvin Arauz are conducting searches to recover weapons in homes of peasants of La Laguna, El Cuajiniquil, El Hornillo, Bueva Vista, and others. They stop vehicles without warning and steal the belongings of the occupants.

Panama

President of Assembly on Alliance With PDC

PA1609150891 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Report by Jenny Lee Martinez]

[Text] The election of Marco Ameglio as president of the Legislative Assembly has produced various opinions on what his performance in that post will be considering that this legislator is a young man. He has been accused of delivering the assembly to the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. In this regard he said:

[Begin Ameglio recording] Regarding charges that I have delivered the assembly to the PDC, I can say that 28 PDC deputies were elected to the assembly. This is a fact. They are an important component of the Legislative Assembly. No one can remove them as if they were ministers or directors of autonomous entities because they were elected to occupy their public posts.

It is obvious that an alliance was necessary to win the nomination and reach a political agreement that would back not only the position of those of us who wanted to be on the board of directors but also legislative projects and agendas. This is decided based on votes. If an alliance had to be made, it had to be with either the PDC or the forces of the Norieguist military dictatorship. I would rather be damned by the people for reaching an agreement with democratic forces than for reaching agreements with forces that have no commitments because they were not at our side at election time and because they never struggled at our side so that this country could change and democracy could gain force. [end recording]

President Ameglio denied that he is being manipulated at the Legislative Assembly.

[Begin Ameglio recording] I have no intention and no interest in letting anyone manipulate me. Had I let anyone manipulate me, I would have remained behind political bosses who are directing this country in a way that betrays the interests and the promises made to the Panamanians on 7 May 1989. If I had remained behind them, the people would question my integrity and my decision to work so that things change in this country. I believe I have demonstrated that I can confront the most powerful people. I believe I have already done this, and I have done it with the cooperation and the backing of the majority of the Legislative Assembly deputies because we were united by the idea to work so that the promises that made the people vote for us in 1989 are fulfilled. [end recording]

Striking Teachers Meet With Education Minister

PA1709024791 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Report by David Selayandia; passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] Teachers who today began a 72-hour strike met this morning with Education Minister Marcos Alarcon.

A commission of teachers met this morning at the Republic of Venezuela School to decide whether to meet with the education minister after teachers around the country began a 72-hour strike. The reason for the strike is principally the demand for the payment of six of the 15 months of back pay that the government had promised. The teachers also demand improvements in the different schools around the country.

For his part, the education minister has stated that, with regard to the economic aspect, the government has already responded to the payments.

[Alarcon] "The amount allotted in the budget proposal will not only cover the 15 months of back pay but also all the debts the government has or, at least, most of the debts the government has with the country's teachers."

However, for the teachers that is not the most important point.

[Unidentified teacher] "If they thought that teachers would run today to the payment offices for their checks, they were wrong. There are things here that are more important than money."

Minister Marcos Alarcon said that the teachers' petitions contain some requests that are not in the Education Ministry's hands, but those of other state branches.

[Alarcon] "Some of the solutions correspond to the executive branch and others to the legislative branch.

That is why I say that, at Education Ministry level, I believe that the requests, more than a list of demands, are a list of excuses for some people who want to disrupt the school year."

At this time, a commission of teachers representing the different teachers unions is meeting with the principal officials of the Education Ministry, including Minister Alarcon, in an effort to find a solution to the 72-hour strike called by the teachers and professors of the country.

Poll on U.S. Troops on Bases After 1999

PA1609232291 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 16 Sep 91 p 8c

[Poll conducted among grammar, high school, and university students on the status of U.S. troops in Panama after the year 1999 by the Interdisciplinary Development Consultants organization, in affiliation with the Gallup Internation Research Institute]

[Text] Question: "As you may well know, for regional security reasons and because of the canal, the United States maintains military troops on several bases here in Panama. With regard to the U.S. troops remaining here after 1999, do you think the same number of troops currently deployed in Panama should remain, or that a reduced number should remain, or that there should be a complete withdrawal of these troops?

The U.S. soldiers presence in Panama after 1999, when the Panama Canal is turned over to this Central American nation, is accepted by a majority of Panamanians. They are more divided, however, as to the number of soldiers that should remain after 1999.

Those with some university education accept the presence of U.S. troops but are equally divided between whether the same number of troops should remain or the number of troops should be reduced.

Should U.S. Troops Remain Here or Not—According to Educational Level of Those Interviewed

		Educational Level		
Opinion	**Total**	**Grammar**	**High School**	**University**
Total	100	100	100	100
The same number of troops should remain	46	47	48	39
Fewer troops should remain	33	32	32	38
All troops should leave	15	11	16	20
Undecided/No response	6	10	4	3

Argentina

Government Launches Reform of Financial Sector

PY1609024691 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Sep 91 p 5

[Text] (NA)—The government launched the reform of the financial sector yesterday. President Carlos Menem signed a decree which sheds 10,000 employees from state banks, Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo announced at a seminar on competitive advantages held at City Hall yesterday.

Employees will be encouraged to apply for early or voluntary retirement, the economy minister said. A maximum 3,500 of the total will be transferred to tax offices such as the DGI [General Directorate of Taxation] tax bureau and the Customs House. Meanwhile, Central Bank communique 4,678 issued yesterday pegs capital reserve requirements to loan rates.

Commercial banks which charge borrowers a monthly interest of four percent or more on austral loans will be obliged by law to raise reserves. (The ceiling for annual dollar loans was set at 30 percent) Cavallo expressed optimism that financial overcosts will edge nearer international costs.

Rebel Leader Denies Plotting Against Menem

PY1609131491 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2012 GMT 14 Sep 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Sep (NA)—Colonel Mohamed Seineldin (retired), who is serving a life sentence at the Magdalena military jail, has denied being involved in a plot against President Carlos Menem. He explained that he had "great respect" for Zulema Yoma de Menem.

Seineldin denied rumors that he was responsible for promoting the actions adopted by President Menem's wife. He made this known through Santiago Cahiel, former Moron District mayor, who acted as his spokesman.

Cahiel said: "I spoke to Seineldin who said he had great respect for the first lady," adding that the military officer, who was sentenced for organizing the bloody 3 December rebellion, "categorically denies the rumors spread by the government about the painted faces and about an alleged plot against the president."

Solicitor General Resigns for Personal Reasons

PY1609024291 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Sep 91 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN)—Solicitor General Oscar Roger yesterday relinquished his office and the post reportedly will be filled by Aldo Montesano Rebon—a former member of this city's Federal Appeals Court during the latest military dictatorship.

Roger submitted his resignation to President Carlos Menem at a brief encounter yesterday noon at Government House. The reasons for his decision as stated on his communication to the President are allegedly "strictly of a personal nature." Roger is believed to have lost political ground to Justice Minister Leon Arslanian, and furthermore his family never really fancied the idea of moving from Cordoba to Buenos Aires.

The Solicitor General's office has traditionally belonged in the Judiciary, but this practice was altered upon Menem's arrival at the presidency and now the post is directly under the executive. This explains why Roger submitted his resignation to the President first and will communicate his decision to the Supreme Court only on Monday [16 September].

* Decline in Public Sector Investment Reported

91SM0455B Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 5 Aug 91 p 15

[Text] In the last few years there has been a major decline in public investment, from $4.3 billion (in 1990 dollars) in 1975 to $3.207 billion in 1984, and a low of $2.372 billion in 1990, according to preliminary estimates by the Production and Labor Foundation under the direction of Osvaldo Trocca.

Public investment has been used as an adjustment variable, and consequently there has been an accelerated deterioration of the state-owned infrastructure for the production of goods and services. This has seriously eroded the provision of essential services and has become a serious obstacle to economic recovery.

The foundation cites a report by the General Syndicate of State Enterprises (SIGEP) that sounds the alarm about the risk of new shortfalls in electricity and natural gas supplies.

In particular, investment by Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services (SEGBA) and Water and Energy together amounted to $1,348,900,000 in 1975, in 1990 dollars, while last year that figure was six times less, $284.9 million. As recently as 1989 it was $456.8 million, meaning that there was a drastic reduction from one year to the next.

Investment by State Gas also fell, from $491.2 million in 1975 to $126.1 million in 1990. As recently as 1988 the total was $406 million.

According to the SIGEP report, not only are funds for new investment affected, but so are those for the most basic maintenance. Issues such as the absence of half the thermal equipment, the halting of projects due to the lack of resources, the lack of planning, rising indebtedness, and the lack of minimum maintenance are commonly discussed in the SIGEP reports.

Investment in public enterprises had been falling for some time, but the decline became sharper when privatization plans were announced. Until the transfers are actually made, practically no investments are being carried out.

According to the foundation, all of this means that urgent measures are needed to prevent extremely serious

developments. In an emergency, spending would undoubtedly have to be much higher, as happened during the electricity crisis a while ago. It also points out that major damage is being done by adjusting public spending precisely where it should not be adjusted. The adjustments are initially made on the pretext of being short-term, but they later become permanent.

It should be added that the trend in 1991 is in the same direction, and it is discouraging because the draft budget calls for a 7.47-percent cut in real public sector investment compared to 1990.

[Box, p. 15]

Energy Sector Collapse?

The vice chairman of the Energy Committee of the Buenos Aires Legislature, David Hirtz, warned that the provincial and national energy systems are on the verge of collapse.

The Radical Civic Union (UCR) deputy stated that "we are on the verge of a collapse in the provincial and national energy systems," and added that "if a crisis has not yet arisen it is because there has been a major drop in industrial consumption."

Hirtz indicated that this situation is caused by the lack of investment, and maintained that "in the last five years the only concrete contribution that has been made to the growth of power generation is the installation of a new turbine at the Luis Piedra Buena thermoelectric plant."

"The major national energy projects that were slowing down during the Alfonsin administration are now virtually paralyzed by the lack of funding. This is true of the projects run by the National Atomic Energy Commission as well as the four or five hydroelectric projects in the southern part of the country and Yacyreta," stated the deputy.

He warned that although the hydroelectric plants are not suffering from a lack of rainfall, the nuclear power plants "are operating at the limit of their capacity."

Brazil

Uruguayan President Lacalle Arrives in Brasilia

PY1609143091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1314 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Brasilia, 16 Sep (EFE)—Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle arrived in Brasilia at 0935 (1135 GMT) today. While in Brasilia he will meet with his Brazilian counterpart Fernando Collor, attend a formal session of Congress, and visit the Supreme Court.

Lacalle was met at the door of the plane that flew him from Montevideo to the Brasilia military airport by Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek and Uruguayan Embassy personnel accredited to this city.

Lacalle begins a three day official visit that includes stopovers in Sao Paulo, Porto Alegre, and Pelotas where he will meet with regional authorities and business leaders.

Lacalle is accompanied by four ministers—among them Foreign Minister Hector Gros Espiell—60 businessmen, and a dozen legislators.

Lacalle Criticizes Cuban Regime

PY1709032091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2309 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Brasilia, 16 Sep (EFE)—Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle said today in Brasilia that Cuba is suffering from "sclerosis" due to its stagnation and incapacity to adapt to changes in the international scene.

Lacalle, who is paying an official visit to Brazil, noted how Latin American countries have changed their government systems while the Cuban regime headed by President Fidel Castro opposes any changes.

According to Lacalle, during the first "summit" of Latin American chiefs of state, held in Guadalajara (Mexico) in July, Castro showed he was behind by 20 years.

Lacalle added that the majority of Latin American countries are in favor of a democratic opening in Cuba.

During Lacalle's three-day visit to Brazil, Uruguay and Brazil have signed several cooperation agreements on environmental protection, the antinarcotics struggle, and the development of the Uruguayan-Brazilian border region.

Today, Lacalle held a meeting with Brazilian President Fernando Collor. He was also honored in separate ceremonies at the Brazilian Congress and the Supreme Court.

Lacalle is scheduled to visit Sao Paulo on 17 September. He will end his visit to Brazil on 18 September with a visit to the southern towns of Porto Alegre and Pelotas.

Collor Discusses African Trip, Other Topics

PY1609153291 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Sep 91 p 4

["Full text" of news conference with President Fernando Collor de Mello in Windhoek, Namibia on 13 September]

[Excerpts] [O ESTADO] How do you evaluate your trip to Africa?

[Collor] Brazil has a very positive vision of the future for the African Continent, particularly the countries in the southern part of the continent. As soon as the apartheid issue is resolved, the countries of the region will become prosperous. This is why my visit can be seen as a way of strengthening historic and cultural ties with Portuguese-speaking countries and of intensifying our trade relations

not just with these two countries, but also with the English-speaking countries. It also means that new channels for trade, technological, and cultural exchange are being opened.

[O ESTADO] Will you implement a ministerial reshuffle to close the national accord?

[Collor] I believe that the two issues are unrelated. We are discussing a project that contains a structural reorganization which will allow the country to resume a sustained economic growth, to better distribute its wealth, and to achieve social justice. We are pursuing these goals very intensely. In a presidential system, it is the responsibility of the president of the Republic to choose his advisers. If these advisers fail to meet the expectations of the government, the president must suggest and implement the required changes. Therefore, we cannot confuse the two aspects. People who want the president of the Republic to do this are incorrect and their attitude lacks objectivity.

[O ESTADO] Mr. President, many governors, even those allied with the government, are demanding as a condition for national understanding the end of what they call the "Republic of Alagoas," which is their way of saying the end of corruption. What do you think of this?

[Collor] I must vehemently reject any such statement because the government is demonstrating clearly, purely, and absolutely transparently, its firm determination to punish as an example any action that does not strictly adhere to the highest standards of ethical behavior regarding public expenses. This allows the people to clearly see that the initiatives of the government are always based on this principle.

There is also no imposition. I have not heard nor felt any kind of imposition. No impositions are made in a democratic system; not even the president makes impositions, and much less does he accept any. That is not exactly the principle on which we must act if we want, as I believe we do, to consolidate the democratic process and to strengthen our institutions.

[O ESTADO] Then do you rule out the dismissal of Alagoas officials from the government?

[Collor] That is a prejudice to which I must vehemently react. We cannot have a country composed of different republics. There cannot be this or that republic. The country is a federation and the federative principle demands autonomy and respect among the states. Therefore, any reference to a republic, be it Sao Paulo, Alagoas, or Amazonia, resembles a prejudice which we must firmly reject because it would represent the beginning of the split among society. That is precisely what we are trying to combat here and in other parts of the world. When we fight apartheid it is because we believe in the building of a world of multiracial peace and solidarity. Brazil cannot be divided into more or less developed states because that would be a prejudice that could be carried into other fields, and that would be very serious. [passage omitted]

[O ESTADO] What are Brazil's expectations for the upcoming meeting with the U.S. President?

[Collor] We will see. We will wait for the next United Nations General Assembly, and then we will see in what terms the talks with the U.S. President will be conducted. I am sure that they will be carried out in an atmosphere of closeness, now that the disagreement, the enormous disagreement that existed between Brazil and the United States, has been drastically reduced. That is why I expect the best from this meeting with President Bush next week.

[O ESTADO] Do you think that the recent events in Canapi [the town where Collor's brother-in-law allegedly attempted to kill the mayor] harm the government?

[Collor] No, I don't think so. Thank you.

Comments on Mozambique Project

PY1609214891 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Sep 91 p 6

[By Sandra Sato]

[Excerpts] Maputo—President Fernando Collor yesterday told Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano that the coal exploration project, which Brazil was to have developed in Mozambique, will have to be reviewed. Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek explained that the necessary adjustment in the Brazilian economy will not allow the Rio Doce Valley Company to make the scheduled investment, approximately $1.6 billion (430 billion cruzeiros) over a 10-year period, for exploring the Moatize deposit. [passage omitted]

Despite the fact that he called Mozambique "an island of prosperity," Collor promised Chissano soft treatment for the $300 million Mozambique owes Brazil. "We cannot adopt two different standards, demanding from our debtors an attitude that is different from the attitude that we want to adopt with our creditors," he said. [passage omitted]

Collor on Objective of National Agreement

PY1709014091 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] During an interview with journalists, President Fernando Collor explained that the main objective of structural reform is to obtain funds in order to reactivate investment in basic sectors.

"The objective of this fiscal adjustment or structural reform is precisely what we need to move forward in this

process, because new investments are needed for the country's basic infrastructure and the state cannot provide them."

The president said that he will not permit corruption.

"There are corruption cases. But the government has adopted inflexible and absolutely exemplary measures in all of them. The government has been absolutely inflexible. No matter who is involved, the president's determination and order is to go to the very end, in order to give society the satisfaction that it expects from a government that has committed itself to preserving morality in the administration."

The president said he is trying to reach an agreement in order to debate the reforms, and that there is consensus on some measures.

"...so that the state may recover its investment capacity, its capacity to formulate medium- and long- term policies, and, above all, its planning capacity."

The president called for everyone to unite in order to overcome difficulties.

"This is a moment in which all of us should participate and cooperate, because it is not the government but the country that is at stake. Today more than ever the country needs the unity of all its children, so that we can resolve the basic, structural problems."

Collor added that at no time did he propose a coalition government. He said he will not give up his prerogative to make changes as he deems necessary, with due consideration for the national interest.

Government Preparing Another Economic Package

PY1609132691 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Sep 91 Business and Finance Section p 1

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro—Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira yesterday said that over the next few days the government will launch another economic

Investment in State Enterprises (in billions of 1990 dollars)

Key:
1. State Gas
2. Water and Energy
3. SEGBA
4. Source: FTP, SIGEP, and our own estimates
5. (*) Preliminary

package of measures. The package will include emergency fiscal reform. He said that the government is working toward reducing taxes and interest rates in the search for economic stability. [passage omitted]

Marques Moreira also talked about the possibility of a "slight reduction in borrowing interest rates" and spreads [preceding word in English]—the gross profit margin—of the banks. The minister said that a working group, comprising government officials and entrepreneurs, will review the way in which the cost of money can be reduced. [passage omitted]

Economy Minister Says Inflation Under Control

PY1709031091 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira has stated that the government will not resort to any economic shock to reduce inflation. He made this statement at Planalto Palace during an interview with Uruguayan television Channel 4, after a reception for Uruguayan President Luis Alberto Lacalle.

Marques said that despite the increase of the inflation rate in the past two months, inflation is under control and the fiscal and monetary measures to be adopted by the government will reduce the inflation rate.

Marques believes that the state grew so much that it became fiscally weak, a fact that fed inflation. Defending the fiscal and monetary reforms the government seeks to implement, Marques said that current times demand sacrifice from everyone since inflation is an enemy of all economies. Asked how Brazil will participate in the Common Market of the South, considering its increasing inflation, he said that in a few months Brazil will have inflation rates commensurate with those of Argentina and Uruguay, which currently run to 6 percent per month.

Gas Shortage Affects Industry in Rio de Janeiro

PY1709020891 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Summary] The strike by Petrobras—Brazilian Petroleum Corporation—workers has caused production difficulties for 300 industries in Rio de Janeiro. Today 52 enterprises filed lawsuits to guarantee their natural gas supply.

Incident Between Passarinho, Vice President Over

PY1609162891 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Sep 91 p 4

[Excerpt] Brasilia—Brazilian President Fernando Collor confirmed on 14 September that he plans to keep Justice Minister Jarbas Passarinho in his post. "Of course he is staying," said Collor as he left the home of Senator Hugo Napoleao, who is the PFL [Liberal Front Party] president for Piaui State.

Vice President Itamar Franco threatened to dismiss Passarinho on 13 September.

After spending seven days abroad, during which he visited four African countries, Collor's first official meeting was with Minister Passarinho. The justice minister arrived at the Casa da Dinda presidential residence at 0730 on 14 September. He was carrying a new draft of the Big Amendment, which is a series of proposals for the constitutional reform that the executive branch will submit to Congress. Collor invited the minister to join him and PFL President Hugo Napoleao (PI) for breakfast. "The incident is over," Passarinho stated.

Vice President Itamar Franco did not grant any interviews on 14 September. The vice president's press office reported that Itamar had not consulted with Collor before threatening to dismiss Passarinho because he felt that he had enough power to do so while he was acting president of the nation. [passage omitted]

Remains of Political Prisoners Exhumed

PY1609184291 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Work to identify the remains of 13 political prisoners who were buried as destitute people has begun in Rio de Janeiro.

The burial site was located after the Torture Never Again group researched the records of the Forensic Institute [Instituto Medico Legal, IML].

Work has gone on since early this morning to exhume the remains. A slab covering a 30-meter wide grave at the Ricardo Albuquerque cemetery in northern Rio de Janeiro had first to be removed.

The research by the Torture Never Again group into the records of the IML in Rio de Janeiro revealed that at least 13 political prisoners who were killed during the military regime were buried here as destitute people. The group obtained authorization to exhume and identify the remains.

As soon as the digging began, IML and Torture Never Again personnel sensed that the identification work will be much harder than they expected because the remains of more than 2,000 people, who died between 1970 and 1973, were moved to this cemetery. These remains are all mixed up.

After just 3 hours of digging, the workers have already filled 10 plastic bags with bones.

The identification work, which will be carried out by the IML and two foreign legal experts, will take one year.

Chile

Soviet Ambassador on Pinochet Trip to Moscow

PY1609161691 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 91

[By Angel Bozan Ramos]

[Text] Here is an EFE report datelined Concepcion.

Soviet Ambassador to Chile Yuriy Pavlov has said that a trip to Moscow by General Augusto Pinochet, the Chilean Army commander in chief, is virtually impossible. It has been reported that Gen. Pinochet is preparing a second trip abroad this year.

In a report published by a morning newspaper yesterday, the diplomat says: My information is that Pinochet will be travelling to Europe for purely military matters. We do not have any contact with the Chilean Army and no one has told us anything about a possible trip to the USSR.

Yuriy Pavlov said this in the city of Concepcion, 115 km south of Santiago.

The EFE report notes that in May Pinochet made a 20-day tour of Brazil, Portugal, and the United Kingdom. Now it has been reported that he plans to visit military industries in South Africa, Tunisia, and Morocco.

The diplomat confirmed that a delegation of Chilean economists will travel to Moscow over the next few days. He did not rule out the possibility that Hernan Buchi, the rightist presidential candidate who was defeated in the December 1989 elections, could join this delegation.

The Soviet diplomat said that he did not have any information on reports of a trip to Chile by Erich Honecker, the former leader of the now-defunct German Democratic Republic, GDR, who has a daughter living in Concepcion.

The EFE report states that Chile and the Soviet Union resumed diplomatic relations on 11 March 1990 when President Patricio Aylwin took over the Chilean Government, replacing General Augusto Pinochet, who had been chief of state for 16 and ½ years.

Defense Minister Comments on Pinochet's Remarks

PY1609203691 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Sep 91

[By Carlos Alzamora]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Patricio Rojas has pointed out that General Pinochet is mistaken when he said the president of the Republic is not the commander in chief or the Armed Forces' supreme commander—as Pinochet told a morning newspaper published on 15 September.

The defense minister held a news conference to discuss in detail his 12-day tour of Europe to Spain, France, and the United Kingdom.

Concerning Gen. Pinochet's remarks, Rojas said:

[Begin recording] A correction must be made. The president of the Republic is the chief of state, and in this capacity he issues the basic laws of the Armed Forces. The president of the Republic governs the Armed Forces, has the constitutional powers to organize them; assigns them; directly commands them in war as commander in chief; and appoints the military commander. And, obviously, he is solely responsible for international relations. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Justice Minister on Amending Amnesty Law

PY1609220691 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Justice Minister Francisco Cumplido has said that, for the time being, an amnesty law for cases involving human rights violations is not appropriate. He pointed this out when discussing remarks made yesterday to a morning newspaper by General Augusto Pinochet, the Army commander in chief.

[Begin Cumplido recording] Well now, these proposals have always been made by opposition parties and different people.

The government has repeatedly made assessments. The government's decision is that, for the time being, an amnesty law is not appropriate. [end recording]

The justice minister said a commitment on this issue was included in the government's platform. In this regard, he remembered that a pardon has been established for those who committed political crimes, except for crimes involving homicide, extremely serious injuries, or the abduction of minors. Cumplido added that those who committed the latter crimes have been guaranteed a right to a trial and a proportional sentence.

The justice minister said that such a commitment does not mean that one will not be constantly assessing the conditions for laws involving general pardons and amnesty, and other laws.

Cumplido added that Pinochet did nothing but quote the Constitution by stating that the president of the Republic is not the supreme commander of the Armed Forces.

Cumplido said that if the chief of state takes over the direct command of the Armed Forces in war, then he acquires such a designation.

In peace, the justice minister said, the armed institutions are subordinate to the president of the Republic through the defense minister.

Further Reportage on Arrest of FPMR Leader

Minister Denies Harassment

PY1609140691 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Enrique Correa, the minister secretary general of government, has said that the government supports the actions of the police. He stressed that there is no harassment of any political party.

The minister secretary general of government thus addressed the raid carried out on 14 September at the Lipschutz Institute, during which the Carabineros and Investigative Police detained two Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front leaders.

Correa said that the government acted within the law and that it has done so in a balanced manner. He indicated that the police forces acted to safeguard order, seeking out a person who was evading the law.

Correa noted that there is no harassment of any political party. He stressed, however, that the government will not permit any legal party to shield illegal actions.

The minister secretary general of government added that the government fully respects the Communist Party's right to conduct actions as a legal political party.

Minister Correa stressed: We respect it as a legal party. We received it as a legal party, but this in no way can be an excuse for any weakness toward illegal actions which must be stopped.

The minister secretary general of government said this after participating in an evangelic Te Deum.

In conclusion, Correa refused to voice an opinion on an alleged confrontation between the Investigative Police and the Carabineros, indicating that it is up to the interior minister to address this issue in due time.

Meanwhile, sources close to La Moneda have stressed that, on orders of Interior Minister Enrique Krauss, both the Investigative Police and the Carabineros will reportedly report on this matter today.

MMR Announces Legal Actions

PY1609150491 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez Movement [MMR] has announced a number of unarmed and legal actions following the raid carried out by Carabineros and Investigative Police on 14 September at the Lipschutz Institute offices where a few minutes earlier MMR members held a news conference. During the police action, Marcos Riquelme, who was at large, was detained.

MMR leader Jorge Olivera has pointed out that the decision to file suit is based on the human rights violations reportedly committed by the police during their raid. He ruled out the possibility of any armed action, arguing that this is not the way the MMR acts.

Olivera also denounced a terrorist campaign mounted by the UDI [Independent Democratic Union] against the MMR. He rejected the attitude of the government, which, in his opinion, has promoted and condoned actions similar to the one carried out on 14 September, thus submitting to the threats of General Pinochet and his political party, the UDI.

Discussing the raid, Olivera expressed his condemnation of the Investigative Police and the Carabineros who—he claimed—beat MMR executive board leaders Cesar Quiroz and Leandro Torquio.

At the 3d Carabineros Precinct, old practices of the now-defunct CNI [National Intelligence Center] were revived, such as torturing some of the detainees, who have cigarette burns, Olivera added.

The MMR leader also denied that MMR members were responsible for inflicting wounds on an investigative policeman.

Olivera reasserted that the MMR is not an armed movement. He said that MMR members do not carry weapons. Olivera added that the investigative policeman was wounded as a result of a clash between Carabineros and Investigative Police who carried out parallel operations.

Olivera concluded by confirming that Luis Vega, who escaped from a jail in La Serena, was detained by the Carabineros. Vega, along with Riquelme, is currently being held by the Investigative Police, Olivera noted.

FPMR Rejects Government Support

PY1609211491 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] today expressed its rejection of the support given by the government to the police actions carried out on 14 September after FPMR members held a news conference in the Alejandro Lipschutz Institute.

This position was stated by FPMR leaders Cesar Quiroz, Leandro Torquio, and Angelica Rojas during another meeting with the press.

[Begin Rojas recording] We reject the comments made by government officials, especially by Secretary General of Government Enrique Correa, who justified the repression against the FPMR. These remarks seem to justify the comments made by General Augusto Pinochet in the sense that Correa would have been a good minister of the dictatorship. The government appears to be administering the repressive and antidemocratic order inherited from the dictatorship. The repression against the FPMR confirms the efforts to install a police state under the Pinochet policy of maintaining an illegal war in the country. [end recording]

The FPMR leaders said in reference to the UDI [Independent Democratic Union] that the repression against the FPMR is part of campaign by the dependent antidemocratic union, which is a party of the military power.

The leaders also demanded that the Interior Ministry keep real control over the Carabineros and the Investigative Police. They also said that some of their militants have been under surveillance and have been harassed. The FPMR leaders concluded by saying that tomorrow they will go to La Moneda palace to insist on getting an audience, which has not yet been granted.

Communists Complain About Incident

PY1709025891 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Sep 91

[By Manola Robles]

[Text] Chilean Communist Party [PCCh] leaders met with the interior minister and members of the Public Security Office Coordinating Board for more than one hour. The meeting was attended by Volodia Teitelboim, Gladys Marin, Mireya Baltra, and Jorge Insulsa, representing the PCCh, and lawyers Mario Fernandez, Jorge Burgos, and Marcelo Schilling, representing the Security Office.

Teitelboim said that thorough talks were held during the meeting, and that they protested the 14 September incidents that occurred after a news conference by the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR]. According to Teitelboim, the Investigative Police member who was allegedly injured there must have been injured somewhere else. The incident was not connected to the news conference at the Alejandro Lipschutz Institute. He said the FPMR, which is willing to join the national political life, has been having serious difficulties doing so.

Asked about Minister Krauss' answer, Teitelboim said:

[Begin recording] The interior minister listened attentively. He said the government has nothing against the PCCh and that it considers the PCCh a legal organization, which consequently has the right to perform its political role. He added that the government does not support the opinion of those who say that the PCCh acts in an antidemocratic fashion. [end recording]

Teitelboim said that a way to normalize the situation of FPMR members is being studied. He said Minister Krauss commented on a Carabineros report to the Investigative Police and added that the PCCh believes the report was inaccurate. Teitelboim admitted, however, that fugitive Marcos Riquelme was at the place, but was then captured at (?Currington) and Alameda Avenues and not at the site of the news conference.

Jorge Insulsa said the Fiat 132 reportedly linked to the incidents has been returned to its owner.

[Begin Insulsa recording] Therefore, the car was not connected to any incident related to weapons; otherwise, Investigative Police personnel would not have returned it to its owner. [end recording]

Insulsa denied any PCCh involvement in terrorist actions and concluded by saying that the party's objectives are peace and democracy.

Government Files Charges in Guzman Murder

PY1409010691 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] The Interior Ministry filed charges this afternoon against Chilean Eduardo Olea Gaona for his alleged link to the murder of Senator Jaime Guzman of the UDI [Independent Democratic Union].

According to reliable sources, Olea Gaona is reportedly outside the country. Despite the fact that his existence and possible link with the case was known, the charges were filed based on new evidence. Despite the mystery about this case, it was known that Prosecutor Guillermo Navas Bustamante only learned about the charges this afternoon. It has also been learned that Navas would not make any decision for the time being because he will go on vacation this weekend, returning next weekend.

Olea Gaona is the first man charged in a process that began on 1 April 1991, and not much is known about him. Both the Investigative Police and the Carabineros arrested about a dozen suspects but the suspects' participation in the murder has not been proven. Jaime Guzman was murdered on 1 April 1991 by an extremist commando who shot him at the Catholic University, where he went to teach a class at the law school.

Minister Seeks Investigation

PY1409185291 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss said today that he will ask for an investigation into the leak of some background information on an inquest into the murder of Senator Jaime Guzman. He thus alluded to a report that Autonomous Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front member Sergio Olea is one of the main individuals responsible for the murder. Krauss said this information is part of a secret inquest that Judge Guillermo Navas is conducting.

[Begin Krauss recording] Rather than order an investigation into the leak, I should convey an expression of concern because a matter of the highest significance and importance—such as the investigation into the death of Senator Guzman, which is being examined in an inquest—has been influenced by God knows who. Inquests are secret and this leak will surely serve to frustrate the work that the Chilean police—with the help of some foreign police organizations—have been carrying out for a long time. [end recording]

As for the accuracy of the information, the minister said it was a leak from the inquest, adding that the case has

entered a dangerously frustrating stage because of this circumstance. [passage omitted]

FPMR Denies Ties With Guzman Case

PY1609020691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2352 GMT 14 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Santiago, 14 Sep (EFE)—Citizen Sergio Olea Gaona, who has been accused by the Chilean Government of participation in the assassination of rightist Senator Jaime Guzman, is not a militant member of the ultraleftist "Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front" (FPMR), an FPMR spokesman said today during a news conference.

Marcos Riquelme, who, along with other FPMR leaders, remained underground during the military regime and has since surfaced to join public political life, talked to journalists in order to establish the scope of the indictment filed yesterday by the Interior Ministry against Olea Gaona.

There are contradictory reports on this issue. Some claim that this person has been detained by police, but press reports state that he is not in Chile. [passage omitted]

Lawyer Appeals in Murder of British Journalist

PY1409031291 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] Lawyer Jorge Trivino has appealed the resolution by the Fifth Criminal Court judge who temporarily closed the case related to the murder of British reporter Jonathan Moyle.

Trivino represents Anthony Moyle, the father of Jonathan Moyle, who was murdered on 31 March 1990 in the Carrera Hotel in Chile.

[Begin Trivino recording] The plaintiff believes that it is not possible to say there is not enough evidence to accuse an individual of being an accomplice or an accessory in the murder, because the investigation cannot be considered finished. There is still an important investigation that has to be processed and its final result added to the case. [end recording]

Trivino added that only after the investigation is over will it be possible to say the case can be closed. Trivino also said there is enough evidence to say that some people can be cosidered suspects. Some people who are out of the country still have to be interrogated by Interpol. Trivino also added that the results of tests on the organs of the murdered British reporter have not yet arrived.

* PS President Views Elections, Politics

91SM0487A Santiago ERCILLA in Spanish 14 Aug 91 pp E12-E15

[Interview with Jorge Arrate, President of the Socialist Party, by Maria Angelica Rodriguez; date, place not given; first paragraph is introduction]

[Excerpts] The current socialist leader discusses a number of topics, including presidential candidates and scenarios for 1993, and relations with the PPD [Party for Democracy] after the plenary session in Concepcion.

[passage omitted]

[Rodriguez] At the plenary meeting one complaint was reiterated about the dysfunctional nature of the Coalition. People say it only works when some party leaders meet in la Moneda [presidential offices]... What is your perception?

[Arrate] The Coalition is working on the government level. We must not forget that the man who was its spokeperson is now president of the republic, and people who were party leaders or high-level party officials are now cabinet ministers or members of parliament. So it is working, and working well, in Congress and in some regions, provinces, and communes. But as a central system for generating policy, I think it is actually quite weak, and that is part of the transition. We have a very strong government, because it was set up to run an authoritarian government, and at the same time, a very weak civilian society, and the parties are weak as well.

[Rodriguez] In the Concepcion meeting people also said the government needs to develop new programs... Why?

[Arrate] Because with what happened with the municipal reform and the constitutional reforms, many of our citizens have come to feel that we are going to have to keep on living with the Constitution we have. I believe it is a very bad thing, after a year and a half of an administration, for people to get the impression that we can not go any further.

[Rodriguez] What do you think of the administration's economic performance?

[Arrate] I believe it has been one of the keys to the success we have had in the transition. I know what I am saying is controversial, especially from the left's point of view, but I feel that the great merit of the economic leadership during this period has been to keep the economy in order, functioning, growing, and inspiring confidence. The fate of the transition would be quite different it we now had long lines, runaway inflation, fiscal and monetary chaos, and lack of confidence in the international banking community.

[Rodriguez] But there are large population groups that are dissatisfied with the lack of response to social demands...

[Arrate] These demands have been accumulating for a long time; it is practically impossible for anyone to satisfy them in the short term. What we can give the nation is an unequivocal sign that this government and the goverments which will follow it, through the Coalition governments to come, have as their goal to eliminate inequalities and injustices. We recently submitted a social policy proposal to the government, because we share the concern of people who see a lack of imagination or foot-dragging on this issue.

[Rodriguez] Andres Allamand said: "It it not necessary to agree with a government about which the best that can be said is that it is not doing too badly..."

[Arrate] We have to start doing things very well and demanding that Allamand shoulder the responsibility for things we can not do, for he has a key factor in Congress, and in certain areas RN [National Renovation], UDI [Independent Democratic Union] and selected senators have used this advantage relentlessly.

[passage omitted]

[Rodriguez] The plenary session decided to propose to the PPD the creation of a purely electoral federation, which was not what you had in mind...

[Arrate] My proposal called for setting up a 'de facto' federation of a programmatic nature with a meaningful content, without waiting for the legal structures. In the letter the PPD sent us, they suggested an electoral federation, a sum of votes of part of the Coalition slate, to add votes and gain the benefit of cumulative numbers.

[Rodriguez] Sergio Bitar suggested that the PPD wants to become the driving force of the Coalition parties. Does that make relations between you difficult?

[Arrate] No, for we share that point of view. What we would like is for the PS and the PPD, federated, to be the driving force of the Coalition. We are a little more generous than Sergio Bitar.

[Rodriguez] They do not support a single leadership for the federation or one head, as a socialist proposal advocated. What are the pros and cons of this position?

[Arrate] I think that in a purely electoral federation, it obviously makes no sense to have a head; but in a substantive federation, a head is needed, for there must be a higher body above the two parties, with the ability to harmonize, to lead, to conduct, to protect the interests of both, and not just of a single group.

The Presidential Issue

Jorge Arrate thinks that people who raise the issue of the hegemonic drive of DC [Christian Democracy] sometimes are right, and sometimes not. "My position," he says, "is that we must develop a responsible relationship with them, for our mutual understanding is a basic factor underlying the Coalition's stability."

[Rodriguez] Did it bother you when Jorge Molina, formerly undersecretary general of your party, described your position as "slavishly following" the DC and as "maximum submission" to its predominance in the Coalition?

[Arrate] No, because I assumed that he had had a bad day. I was much more concerned that he has had too many bad days one after another.

[Rodriguez] He also said that the DC's decision to discuss the presidential issue in a convention in 1993 is "an interesting device intended to immobilize the other Coalition parties." Do you share that opinion?

[Arrate] Strangely enough, I do, though generally I do not agree with him at all.

[Rodriguez] Some socialists say the DC acted irresponsibly in putting the presidential issue on the agenda, attempting to "serve notice" of the date through its schedule... What is your opinion?

[Arrate] When I learned of the DC's agreements, it seemed reasonable for us to leave the presidential issue for later. But I have had some second thoughts since then, suggesting that what Molina is saying is reasonable and that it is one thing to say: "We are going to settle the presidential issue in 1993," but what is actually happening is something different. In fact, what we have is a number of people running for the presidential nomination. That strengthens a party, and it is a disadvantage for a party which does not have people campaigning for the nomination.

[Rodriguez] You said you advocated selecting a joint presidential candidate, one who would deserve the confidence of both socialists and PPD members. Is it all the same to you whether that candidate is from the PPD or from the PS?

[Arrate] It is not all the same to me, but I believe there are not many people who can merit the confidence of both parties and identify with the two parties. As we have the dual membership mechanism still working, there is a small group of people who can comply with that condition.

[Rodriguez] In that group, is Ricardo Lagos the man with the best chances?

[Arrate] Obviously.

[Rodriguez] Would he be the left's man?

[Arrate] I think he is the comrade who best combines the qualities I described.

[Rodriguez] For the municipal campaign, you advocate turning over your leadership to the presidential nominee. Why?

[Arrate] Because, even though the DC has said it will only make a formal decision on the presidential issue in 1993, a number of potential nominees are going to be

involved in the municipal elections: Frei, Valdes, and Zaldivar. Let us call a spade a spade, and not keep on being political hypocrites. These senators are going to travel about Chile in support of their parties' candidates, and I think it is a disadvantage for the socialists and the PPD not to be on an equal footing. Secondly: for the PS-PPD federation a leadership figure would be very useful to keep things in order: at best, not a potential presidential nominee, but it has to be someone who can create harmony and instill a sense of fairness.

[passage omitted]

Colombia

Possible Sale of Oil to Cuba Under Discussion

PA1309153091 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0324 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 12 Sep (EFE)—Gustavo Orozco Restrepo, newly appointed Colombian consul to Havana, said on 12 September that his country will offer to sell oil and oil by-products to Cuba after the resumption of commercial relations between the two countries, which were broken 10 years ago.

In remarks to Colombian Radio Cadena Caracol, Orozco, who was appointed in August, noted that the first commercial activities planned include the offer to sell hydrocarbons to Cuba.

He warned, however, that the possible transactions must be "agreed on and authorized" by President Cesar Gaviria and his Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo.

Colombia and Cuba resumed relations, dealing at first with commercial matters, during the First Ibero-American Summit, held in Guadalajara, Mexico on 18 and 19 July, where Gaviria met with Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Relations between the two countries were suspended in 1981 when then President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala accused the Castro government of bankrolling and training his country's leftist guerrillas.

Consul Orozco Restrepo noted: "According to the agreement signed in Guadalajara, the stress in the relations falls on economic, commercial, and cultural affairs."

It was precisely in the area of cultural matters that the resumption of relations between the two countries took place the last week of August, when the Cuban National Ballet, directed by Alicia Alonso, performed in several Medellin and Cali theaters.

Government To Announce Peace Talks Recess

PA1309173891 Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Sep 91

[Text] Caracas—A recess in the talks between the government and the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board could be announced by the middle of next week as the parties approach the most difficult phase of the talks. This phase includes the study of the rebels' political participation and the creation of detente zones. An eight-day recess starting 18 or 19 September may be announced if the rebels do not demand to be allowed to travel to Colombia to contact their central commands. If they require this, then the talks will be recessed for 25 days.

A few minutes before a new session of talks got underway, the government admitted that some progress has been made in the Caracas talks, which aim at reaching an agreement on the cessation of hostilities throughout the country.

Roundup of Guerrilla Activities 9-15 Sep

PA1609183891

[Editorial Report] Santa Fe de Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish on 9 September carries a 400-word report on page 1 on clashes between guerrillas and the Armed Forces in three different departments. The report states: "According to official reports, at least 14 rebels were killed and seven were captured in Caqueta, Tolima and Guajira Departments." The report adds that according to the 12th Brigade, the clashes occurred in San Antonio de Jetucha and Union Penella in the Caqueta area, where "eight rebels were killed in the past 24 hours." In San Vicente del Caguan, four rebels were killed in clashes. In Florencia, six members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) were captured. The report also notes that clashes between Caicedo Battalion and FARC forces continue in southern Tolima Department, following a confrontation that resulted in one rebel dead and another captured.

Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 13 September carries a 45-second report stating that alleged FARC members captured one soldier and one civilian employee of the 12th Battalion, identified as Corporal Fernando Elias Matias and Arcadio Raina, in the rural areas of Union Penella, Montanita Municipality in Caqueta.

Santa Fe de Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish on 10 September carries a 75-word report on page 1 on a dynamite attack in Itagui Municipality, Antioquia Department, in which one policeman was killed and two officers were wounded.

The same paper on the same date carries a 400-word report on page 9 on ongoing clashes in Caqueta, Tolima, and Cesar Departments between the Armed Forces and the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNGSB) fronts. The item states that on the road

to Cucuta in Pamplona, Norte de Santander Department, the "Maza" Mechanized Group clashed with the "Francisco Caraballo" front, Popular Liberation Army (EPL) dissidents; six rebels were killed. The report says that one revolver, 76 9mm rounds, three grenades, eight dynamite sticks, a slow burning fuse system, and a small bus were confiscated during the operation. Meanwhile, in Tolima Department, Ortega Municipality, the report says that 3d Division troops of the Caicedo Battalion confiscated short- and long-range weapons. The report adds that in Saravena, Arauca, Number 2 Operative Commandos of the Caldas Battalion seized weapons and documents belonging to the FARC, according to the official report. The report adds that the Armed Forces also carried out military operations in El Tambo, Narino, Manizales, Rionegro, Santander, Jamundi, Valle del Cauca, and Giron, in Santander Department during which weapons belonging to the CNGSB were seized.

Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 11 September, pages 1, 8A, carries a 575-word report on the dynamite attack that killed Major Ricardo Avila Gonzalez, chief of planning of the Metropolitan Police in Medellin on 9 September. The report adds that eight FARC rebels and three policemen were killed on 10 September in clashes in Putumayo and Narino. The article carries a police report on a rebel attack in Leiva, Narino in which one policeman died when his patrol car was attacked on 9 September. Two policemen died in a similar attack on 10 September. The report adds that in the same area, police sources claim that at least eight FARC rebels died in clashes with the Boyaca Battalion, adding: "A guerrilla summit was being held among members of the VI, VIII, and XXIX FARC fronts". The report concludes that in Caqueta, a Cazadores Battalion patrol was attacked; four rebels died and three soldiers were wounded.

Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 9 September carries a 1-minute report on Army operations staged during 7 and 8 September in rural areas of Caqueta, Santander, Tolima, and Guajira Departments. Thirteen rebels and one soldier were killed, and eight rebels were arrested. The report adds that an array of weapons were confiscated.

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish at 1836 GMT on 15 September carries an approximately 200-word Santa Fe de Bogota datelined item on a CNGSB dynamite attack on a police garrison in Villa Colombia, in Valle del Cauca Department. One soldier was killed and three were wounded. According to the report, during the pursuit operation, another soldier died and two more were wounded.

Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish at 1200 GMT on 15 September carries a 1-minute report on an Army operation in rural Antori, Antioquia Department, in which "one rebel was killed and a cocaine processing laboratory, a pistol, munitio 10 kg of cocaine paste, acids, salt, scales, and 125 gallons of gasoline were confiscated."

Paraguay

Government To 'Intensify' Contacts With USSR

PY1609204991 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 14 Sep 91 p 11

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken has reported that the Paraguayan Government wants to intensify contacts to establish "diplomatic and trade relations" with Russia. He made it clear, however, that to make progress in this process it will be necessary to clearly determine the "legal organization of the Soviet Union."

He said that it has to be established "whether we will maintain relations with the USSR as a state comprising several republics or whether these republics will become sovereign states. In any case, we should maintain relations with each of them or with the major ones."

"Anyway, we will have to establish relations with Russia, or with the Soviet Union." Asked whether some names already are being considered for the ambassadorial post in Moscow, Frutos Vaesken said: "We may not appoint an ambassador exclusively for Russia. We are planning to appoint a concurrent ambassador." Consequently, a Paraguayan diplomatic representative in Europe also will be accredited to the Russian Government.

He said that no candidates have been suggested yet, but as soon as a budget is allocated to this post the names will have to be proposed so the executive branch can appoint an ambassador. He did not rule out the possibility of including the appropriate fund for the "concurrent embassy" in Russia in the next budget.

This initiative is within the framework of a full opening promoted by the current Soviet Government toward all countries. Frutos Vaesken previously had announced the establishment of the first stage of trade relations with Russia. [passage omitted]

Congress Rejects Executive Branch Veto

PY1609212091 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 15 Sep 91 p 2

[Excerpt] For the first time in the transition process, Congress yesterday rejected an executive branch veto. As a result, a national law—which takes effect in 10 days—declares that the expropriation of 150,000 hectares of land owned by Comercial Inmobiliaria Paraguayo-Argentina, whose main stockholder is Roberto Antebi, is in the social interest.

The Senate had already expressed its position on the subject. The deputies, by an absolute majority, yesterday ratified the original text of the bill that expropriates the land.

Deputy Nelson Villate was the only lawmaker who voted for the executive branch veto.

Authentic Radical Liberal Party Deputy Juan Manuel Benitez Florentin said that if the Constitution is to be complied with, latifundia must be eliminated. He stressed that there are no personal feelings toward the landowner, adding that it is a structural problem our country has endured for a long time. [passage omitted]

Newspapers Condemn IBR President's Removal

PY1609224491

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of commentaries that appeared in the three most important dailies on 15 September on the forced resignation of Agrarian Reform Institute (IBR) President Basilio Nikiphoroff.

ABC COLOR in Spanish publishes on page 12 a 600-word commentary by Jesus Ruiz Nestosa entitled "Wondering in the Desert" in which the author says: "Each day that goes by, the many promises made to eradicate the corruption inherited from the dictatorship sound more hollow, false, and superficial. The recent dismissal of Nikiphoroff from the IBR has been one of the hardest blows in this respect. The basic conclusion is that the individual who denounced corruption and corrupt officials was dismissed." Ruiz Nestosa says that "the message is clear" because it has been conveyed "that efficiency, honesty, and rectitude are not qualities but dangerous shortcomings that must be avoided."

NOTICIAS in Spanish publishes on page 13 a 400-word commentary by Santiago Trias Coll entitled "Position or Party, a Difficult Decision" in which the author notes that Nikiphoroff is accused of "two basic sins, the first one being the indiscriminate denunciation of irregularities" and the second, and "more serious sin, his lack of personal commitment to the Colorado Party." Trias says these sins are too unimportant to dismiss "one of the few people who has shown ability and dedication." Trias concludes by saying: "It would be interesting to find out who advises President Andres Rodriguez in such delicate matters, because those subtle advisers act more like infiltrated opposition politicians who are trying to make the party in government lose rapidly."

HOY in Spanish publishes on page 19 a 1,400-word commentary by Luis Carmona entitled "Not So Common Sense" in which the author says: "Among the many ironies of public administration, perhaps the most surprising one is that public officials who perform well are closer to being dismissed than those who are inefficient or do not care about the position. Basilio Nikiphoroff's case, with a performance that even his loudest critics consider technically unblemished, is a magnificent example of this." Carmona notes that Nikiphoroff was named to head an institute that was shown in an audit "to be one of the most corrupt in the country," and that the forces opposing reform came "from inside the agrarian institute, the government, and the Colorado Party." Carmona also notes that "the political pressure exercised, first, by the Colorado Party to take electoral advantage of such a powerful organization and, secondly, by some powerful people whose names began showing up in reports on irregularities" turned Nikiphoroff's efforts into "a problem." Carmona says: "The generalized impression is that the reason for his dismissal was that his performance was just too good."

HOY in Spanish publishes on page 14 a 650-word commentary by Bernardo Neri Farina entitled "Niki Did Not Understand 'The Matter'" in which the author says that "suitability, honesty, and desire to serve" are qualities still unappreciated in public office or positions considered "political booty." Neri Farina says Nikiphoroff "wanted to reorganize the institute in order to make it efficient. What Nikiphoroff did not know was that the institute has always been efficient...in benefiting directors who became self-sacrificing landowners and concerned millionaires."

HOY in Spanish publishes on page 15 a 600-word commentary by Guido Rodriguez Alcala entitled "Changes in the IBR" in which the author says: "The dismissal of IBR President Basilio Nikiphoroff seems to indicate that democracy is wanted and admired but people are not willing to pay the price to have it." Rodriguez characterizes Nikiphoroff as "competent, without ties, and young," a person who "imposed discipline and honesty at the IBR" and who was unable to accomplish all that was necessary for lack of political support. Rodriguez says: "The regrettable part of the whole affair is that he was ousted for doing things well."

Peru

Communique Issued on Border Problem With Ecuador

PY1609113291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0248 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Lima, 15 Sep (ANDINA)—The Peruvian Foreign Ministry today issued the following communique about the events that recently took place on the northern border:

Official Communique No. 23/91

Regarding the recent events that took place on the border with Ecuador in the area between the Cusumaza-Bumbuiza and the Yaupi-Santiago markers, the Foreign Ministry reports the following:

1. The Foreign Ministry summoned the representatives of the four guarantor countries of the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol (Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States of America) on 13 September to inform them of the measures of trust adopted by Peru and Ecuador last 27 August and to reiterate their petition for intervention in this matter, as established in the referred protocol, seeking to overcome the problem that exists in the area.

2. Today the guarantors publicly issued a declaration "urging the two parties to adopt the necessary measures to peacefully solve the problem, and to urge the immediate withdrawal of military troops so as to avoid any confrontation or shedding of blood" as proposed by the Peruvian Government to the guarantor countries last 13 September when it proposed the withdrawal of both Peruvian and Ecuadoran military troops from the area.

3. The Peruvian Government thanks the guarantor countries for having assumed this responsibility through the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol and thanks them for their meditation and their help in easing the tension in the referred area.

4. The Peruvian Government hereby reiterates that, according to its firm vocation for peace and respect for the law, it will continue to act within the framework of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol that definitively established the border between Peru and Ecuador.

Lima, 15 September 1991
Foreign Ministry Press Office.

Rio Group Guarantees Accepted

PY1709011491 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2036 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Lima, 16 Sep (Andina)—The Peruvian Foreign Ministry today accepted the good offices of the four guarantor countries of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol "to contribute in the most appropriate manner to facilitate and accelerate a mutually acceptable solution" in view of recent incidents on the Peruvian-Ecuadoran border. This is included in the following official communique:

Official Communique No. 24/91

The Peruvian Government praises the declaration issued on 15 September by the four guarantor countries of the 1942 Rio de Janeiro Protocol. Through it, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and the United States reassert their willingness to wholeheartedly fulfill their commitment within the framework of the terms established in this protocol.

In a note addressed in 1960 to the Ecuadoran foreign minister, the foreign ministers of the four guarantor countries reasserted that the Rio de Janeiro Protocol—which was signed and ratified by Ecuador and Peru and implemented almost completely through what the parties involved described as permanent border demarcations—is a valid treaty that must be fulfilled. In addition, they stated that, in compliance with the commitments assumed by their governments, they are willing to assist Peru and Ecuador whenever necessary to seek solutions to any disagreements that may arise.

In 1981, during the 19th OAS foreign ministers consultation meeting, the guarantor countries issued a declaration. In it, they reasserted their willingness to support and contribute to all efforts made to maintain peace. They also expressed their willingness to continue being guarantors of the Peruvian-Ecuadoran Peace, Friendship, and Border Protocol of 29 January 1942.

The declaration issued on 15 September 1991 in Brasilia reasserts this willingness. In this declaration, the guarantor countries express their concern over the increase of tensions in the border area. They assume their special responsibility, as is established in the Rio de Janeiro Protocol, and offer their good offices to contribute in the most appropriate manner to facilitate and accelerate a mutually acceptable solution.

Moreover, the Foreign Ministry informs the people that on 15 September, it addressed a formal note to the four guarantor countries accepting their good offices.

Lima, 16 September 1991

Foreign Ministry Press Department

Government Creates Foreign Debt Committee

PY1609173291 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 8 Sep 91 p A4

[Text] The Economy and Finance Ministry has issued Decree 205- 91 through which the government creates the Foreign Debt Committee. The text of the decree was published in yesterday's issue of EL PERUANO.

The decree establishes that the committee will be responsible for reprogramming or refinancing the foreign debt and for implementing mechanisms to improve the debt's conditions or to reduce the debt service.

From now on, any operation to renegotiate the foreign debt will require the committee's approval "or they will be rendered null and the board of directors or head of institution, as the case might be, will be held personally responsible."

The committee will be subordinate to the Economy and Finance Ministry and will be presided over by the economy minister.

The following people will serve on the committee: a representative of the president of the Republic who will serve as vice president; an executive secretary; the foreign affairs and finance vice ministers; and representatives from the Central Reserve Bank [BCR], the National Bank, and the Economy and Finance office.

The decree establishes that the executive secretary will be the foreign debt official negotiator and that he will be authorized to sign and process all pertinent documents.

The government issued another decree that was also published in yesterday's issue of the official newspaper, in which the members of the committee presided over by Economy Minister Carlos Bolona are named. The decree names Industry Minister Victor Joy Way as the president's representative and committee vice president. Raymundo Morales Bermudez was named executive secretary and official foreign debt negotiator.

The other members are Finance Vice Minister Alfredo Jalilie, Foreign Affairs Vice Minister Alejandro Gordillo, BCR General Manager Javier de la Rocha, National Bank Director Guillermo Runciman, and Economy and Finance adviser Eduardo Valdivia.

The decision to create the committee and name its members, as EXPRESO pointed out some time ago, will give credence and authority to Peru's foreign debt negotiator during his meetings with representatives of the Economic Support Group, the multilateral organizations, and the commercial creditor banks.

Military To Serve on Strategic Companies' Boards

PY1309220091 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 5 Sep 91 p A8

[Text] At least one general or admiral on active duty should serve on the board of directors of any company dealing in strategic activities or which is linked to national security or defense.

An executive branch decree published yesterday in the official gazette EL PERUANO states that the Defense Ministry is empowered to participate in the formulation of the state's management policies for companies dealing in matters pertaining to the national defense.

In accordance with the decree, the board of directors of national state-owned companies must consist of six members: Three of them will be appointed by Conade [National Development Corporation], two members will be proposed by the ministry under which the company operates; and one by the Economy and Finance Ministry.

The decree states that one of the three members to be proposed by Conade should be a general or admiral on active duty designated by the Defense Ministry.

The decree, dated 3 September, amends Decree No. 027-90-Mipre, dated 2 April 1990, which established rules for the activities of state-owned companies. The new decree notes that the previous one had not taken into account the case of state-owned companies dealing in strategic activities linked to national security and defense.

Bank Employees in BCCI Investigation Threatened

PY1609213091 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 9 Sep 91 p A1

[Text] (Sode) [Solidarity and Democracy Movement] Senator Manuel Moreyra Loredo made a surprising announcement the night of 8 September: The so-called Rodrigo Franco Commando has threatened Central Reserve Bank [BCR] employees and their relatives with death to force them not to testify before the committee investigating charges of bribery involving the BCCI [Bank of Credit and Commerce International].

During Channel 4's "Sunday Magazine" program, Moreyra said the threats were made to prevent BCR employees from testifying to the committee chaired by Senator Vega Alvear, or to make them not provide details on the scandal involving former bank President Leonel Figueroa and former General Manager Hector Neyra, who are wanted by the Peruvian court.

Commenting on the Rodrigo Franco Commando's threats, Moreyra said he learned that Augusto Razuri, a presidential adviser under the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance's administration, is among those who threatened the employees.

Peasant Patrols Protect Agricultural Production

PA1709033491 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] Peasant patrols represent a method of self-defense that was initially created in the mountain areas and later adopted in coastal areas. Statistics reveal that there are currently 308 peasant patrols in the central mountains and more are being organized. When the government decided to deliver weapons to the peasant patrols early in April 1991, many were skeptical about the results that this decision would yield in the antisubversive struggle. Months later, the first evaluations show that it was a correct decision.

Peasant patrols, meaning peasants organized and trained to defend their lands and possessions, have become the most efficient means to curb subversive activities in large zones of the country that were previously affected by terrorism. The peasants you see in this film clip are members of one of the 308 patrols organized this year in Junin and Cerro de Pasco Departments to defend, above all, agricultural production centers in those departments.

Five large SAIS—Social Interest Agricultural Associations [Sociedades Agricolas de Interes Social]—were organized in Junin Department when the agrarian reform process ended in 1970. The SAIS are large associations that peasants join to till the land on a community basis, and they include the Tupac Amaru, Cahuide, Ramon Castilla, Tachacutec, and Heroinas Toledo SAIS.

Terrorists have systematically destroyed each of these SAIS in recent years by blowing up production equipment, destroying tractors, killing animals, and killing even the peasants so that they cannot produce, because it is known that everything they produce—meat, milk, potatoes, vegetables, and edible roots—is sent to the market in Lima.

We are now in the land of the Tupac Amaru SAIS, which is one of the last to survive in Junin Department. The peasant patrol system has allowed the people to arm and prepare themselves to protect their lives and possessions from subversives. Thus, they are still able to continue producing and supplying the large markets in the capital.

[Begin unidentified peasant recording] The Tupac Amaru SAIS has been attacked by subversive criminals on three occasions. We have lost three engineers who graduated from a Peruvian university and then continued their studies abroad. We have sustained heavy economic damage. We have lost approximately $4.5 million in machinery and cattle, not to mention lives. [end recording]

As one tours the Junin Department highways, one can observe the efficiency with which the peasant patrols operate to defend their lives and possessions. Roadblocks have been established at the entrance of every town and every peasant community. Men armed with shotguns provided by the government are on guard night and day, scrutinizing every person and vehicle.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What is the name of this town?
[Unidentified peasant] Sasacacha.
[Reporter] This is the entrance to the Quilumayo Valley, is it not?
[Peasant] Yes, the first entrance.
[Reporter] How many hours a day do you maintain controls?
[Peasant] Twelve hours.
[Reporter] Twelve hours?
[Peasant] Twelve hours.
[Reporter] And at night?
[Peasant] Twelve hours, too. We do this day and night, around the clock.
[Reporter] How late are cars allowed to pass through?
[Peasant] Until 1600.
[Reporter] And afterwards?
[Peasant] No one is allowed to pass afterwards, not until 0600 the next day.
[Reporter] Then no one is allowed to travel at night?
[Peasant] They cannot, due to the controls.
[Reporter] How many men do you send every day to control the arrivals and departures?
[Peasant] Three during the day; four at night.
[Reporter] All are armed?
[Peasant] All are armed. [end recording]

Comas District, at the entrance of the Tulumayo River Valley, was the first to receive weapons for its peasant patrols. Comas was attacked many times before the local peasant patrols were organized. Shining Path members tour the valley recruiting young men for their ranks. Comas men have managed to live more or less peacefully since they have organized their peasant patrols.

* 'Power in Peru' Evaluated in Annual Survey

* General Overview

91SM0470A Lima CARETAS in Spanish 12 Aug 91 p 29

[Report by Fernando Rospigliosi: "Powerful Peruvians"]

[Text] The opinion poll on power that the magazine DEBATE publishes each year reveals some new developments this year that are deserving of comment. The survey, as the reader knows, is conducted among 1,000 shapers of opinion.

This time the 10 most powerful personalities belong to the world of politics or derive their power from the political influence they wield. Not a single businessman or representative of economic groups is on the national list.

The notion espoused by some indigenous Marxists that economics dominates politics is not, therefore, reflected in this year's poll. Dionisio Romero, who heads the most important business group in the country, and who was among the top 10 last year, fell to number 16 this year.

Victor Polay, ringleader of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA), has joined the top 10 for the first time. This reflects the perception that terrorism is an increasingly powerful means of exerting pressure, despite the government's efforts to convince people otherwise. Abimael Guzman has also risen, from fifth to fourth place.

This could reinforce Polay Campos' ambitions, as he apparently wants to follow the example of his colleagues in the Colombian M-19, who laid down their arms and immediately won a resounding electoral victory. Polay's electoral aspirations have met with resistance, however, in the highly ideologized sectors of the MRTA and among others who view subversion as a magnificent pretext for covering up the business of drug trafficking, kidnapping, and robbery.

Another significant development is that for the first time—as far as anyone recalls—a presidential brother is included in the list of the 10 most powerful people. Santiago Fujimori, a discreet but extremely important palace adviser, is in seventh place; he is ahead of Prime Minister Carlos Torres, who is relegated to ninth place.

Former Army Captain Vladimiro Montesinos is number 12. This is significant, especially considering that the Rasputin-like adviser to the president has studiously maintained a low profile, to the extent that there are hardly any photographs of him.

If Montesinos were merely Fujimori's personal attorney, the participants in the poll would not attribute so much importance to him. He is ahead of Ministers Jorge Torres Aciego and Victor Malca, as well as Army Commander in Chief Pedro Villanueva.

In fact, there are well-founded suspicions that the sinister onetime officer is playing a key role in promotion decisions in the Army and the Police, as well as in the work of the intelligence services and the formulation of antisubversion strategy.

The poor—or disastrous—results that have been attained in all of these areas are an indication of the caliber of the adviser.

Montesinos is also among the five people with the most influence on President Fujimori's decisions, preceded only by his brother Santiago, his wife Susana, and Hernando de Soto.

A characteristic element of the current president's style of governing is that he surrounds himself with trusted people who are attaining tremendous power even though they do not hold high government office.

One curious fact is that, according to this survey, the main leader of the opposition to the government is Senator Javier Diez Canseco. Although the legislator has personal virtues that make him an outstanding politician, his party, the Mariateguist Unified Party (PUM), is just a small faction—and a dissident one, at that—of the fragmented United Left.

This reveals a situation that has not received enough attention during this first year in office: There is no clearly defined opposition. For this reason, when journalists or political analysts speak of "the opposition," as if they were referring to an actual fact, they are really dealing with reflections that do not adequately mirror what is happening at present.

Because no one can say that the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance (APRA), Popular Action (AP), the Popular Christian Party (PPC), or Liberty are in the opposition. Not even the United Left is. It is more pertinent to say that they disagree with the government on some measures and agree on others, whether it is a matter of expediency, because they actually agree with government policy, or out of a sense of obligation. That is why the leader of a small radical group, which is consistent in its total repudiation of everything Fujimori does—although they voted for him—is at the head of the list of opposition leaders.

But three PUM members are also named among the five worst members of the legislature: Ricardo Letts, Carlos Malpica, and Hugo Blanco, accompanied by the discredited Victor Paredes and the crestfallen Fernando Olivera. This is a veritable record, considering that the PUM has only a few of the 240 seats in Congress. It is precisely the radical—and sometimes scandalous—opposition mounted by the PUM that has at once placed them at the forefront of opposition to the government and in this disgrace.

* Results Published

91SM0470B Lima DEBATE in Spanish
Jul-Sep 91 pp 21-41

[Text] In this issue, DEBATE presents its 11th Annual Survey of Power in Peru. As in all the polls of this type that have been conducted for more than a decade, power is defined as the ability to exert significant influence on the course of events in the country. The questionnaire was sent in late May to a select group of 1,000 shapers of opinion representing "strategic minorities" of the various national activities. Participants in the survey were selected with a view to discovering a little about the backdrop of power in this country and tracing the lines of its structure.

The importance of the results of the 11th Survey of Power lies in the fact that the participants sent in their opinions after spending a year observing the performance of the Alberto Fujimori administration. This difference is substantial, because last year's questionnaire was answered when the new government had been in office for only a month. For this reason, it is likely that the current power structure discerned from the results of the 1991 poll will establish the pattern for what will occur in the remainder of President Fujimori's term.

Power Ranking

Rank	Score	Rank	Score
1) Alberto Fujimori	7119	16) Dionisio Romero	486
2) Carlos Bolona	4104	17) Victor Joy Way	399
3) Hernando de Soto	3987	18) Susana Higushi	387
4) Abimael Guzman	2898	19) Genaro Delgado Parker	378
5) Alan Garcia	1773	20) Pedro Villanueva	342
6) Maximo San Roman	1728	21) Victor Malca	342
7) Santiago Fujimori	1629	22) Fernando Sanchez A.	302
8) Fernando Belaunde	1509	23) Javier Diez Canseco	297
9) Carlos Torres y Torres	1503	24) Cesar Hildebrandt	270
10) Victor Polay	1107	25) Victor Diaz Lau	261
11) Augusto Vargas Alzamora	1008	26) Victor Paredes	252
12) Vladimiro Montesinos	963	27) Luis Alberto Sanchez	234
13) Jorge Torres Aciego	558	28) Luis Bedoya Reyes	207
14) Mario Vargas Llosa	531	29) Manuel Ulloa	153
15) Javier Perez de Cuellar	495	30) Jorge Camet	144

Among the 10 most powerful Peruvians in 1991 are three representatives of the executive branch (the president, the minister of the economy, and the premier), two former presidents, and the two principal members of the subversive movements. On the other hand, there is not a single military officer, clergyman, or businessman, unlike the 1990 survey. Only five of last year's top 10 made the list again this year.

Fujimori and Company

The perception of Alberto Fujimori as the most powerful Peruvian should come as no surprise to anyone. In all of the power surveys conducted, the president of the republic has always held that position. But the difference between Fujimori's score and the second-place score is greater this year than it was in 1990, which means that presidential power is more clearly defined.

It is surprising, in contrast, to see the expectations the participants have for his brother Santiago, whom they rank seventh, above former President Fernando Belaunde and even Prime Minister Carlos Torres y Torres.

Indeed, Santiago Fujimori, by studiously maintaining a low profile, is accomplishing a crucial task in the decisionmaking process at the Palace of Government. He is responsible, for example, for interviewing personally the majority of the people who come to work in the presidential circle: everyone from cabinet ministers to lowly technical assistants.

This role is in keeping with the rules laid down by President Fujimori. He is distrustful of the people surrounding him, so he delegates full authority only to his relatives (among whom his brother Santiago stands out clearly, according to the poll) and a handful of other people.

This is why a number of people with close ties to the president are included in the list of the 30 most powerful Peruvians today. Of particular note in this group is the controversial presidential adviser Vladimiro Montesinos, in 12th place. He has a key influence on decisionmaking at the Palace, especially with regard to national security. This explains, for example, why he ranks higher than Defense Minister Jorge Torres Aciego (13th), Interior Minister Victor Malca (21st), and Commander-in-Chief of the Army Pedro Villanueva (20th). Incidentally, the military presence in this year's power structure is significantly reduced, which contradicts initial speculation about the "militarization" of the government.

First Lady Susana Higushi ranks 18th, which is important in comparison with the ranking of previous first ladies. Pilar Nores, for example, only appeared in the power rankings in 1985, as number 25, and then disappeared from the list. Susana Higushi has also improved her standing since last year, when the participants put her in 26th place.

Other members of the president's inner circle who appear in the power ranking this year are the secretary of the presidency, Victor Diaz Lau, 25th place, and Victor Paredes, the discredited president of the Chamber of Deputies in the 1990-91 term, who is ranked 26th. It is clear that Paredes' ranking is due not to his political office but to his ties to the president.

Temporary Power

The only ministers who rank among the 10 most powerful Peruvians are Economy Minister Carlos Bolona, in no less than second place, and the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, number nine. In last year's survey, the then prime minister and minister of economy, Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller, held the second-place position that Bolona now enjoys. Given the importance of economic problems in this day and age, it is understandable that the participants would attribute a great deal of influence to the man in charge of economic policy. Nevertheless, the power ascribed to Bolona is strictly owing to his office, as he is an independent technocrat without political aspirations. If he were to leave office, he would disappear from the power ranking, as it happened this year to Hurtado Miller, no longer listed in the results of the survey.

Bolona's case is similar to that of Torres y Torres Lara, who is also not a professional politician. Undoubtedly his low profile (which is certainly appreciated by President Fujimori) accounts for his ninth-place ranking, unusual for a cabinet chief. The importance of this post has been confirmed in nearly every power survey, as its occupant has almost always been ranked second. On two occasions (Sandro Mariategui in 1984 and Luis Alva Castro in 1985), the person has been relegated to third place. The exception came in 1983, when Fernando Schawlb, then premier and foreign minister, ranked eighth, similar to Torres y Torres Lara.

The other members of the current cabinet who appear on this year's list of the most powerful, in addition to the defense and interior ministers mentioned above, are Industry Minister Victor Joy Way (17th) and Minister of Energy and Mines Fernando Sanchez Albavera (22nd).

Outer Circle

This year the president of the Institute of Liberty and Democracy (ILD), Hernando de Soto, moved up in the power ranking to the number-three slot. Last year, just a month after the administration had taken office, the participants thought De Soto had a great deal of influence on President Fujimori and ranked him seventh. This perception has been reinforced this year, despite the fact that relations between President Fujimori and De Soto have not always been smooth. One merely has to recall the problems that arose in conjunction with the thwarted Government Decision Democratization program. Later on, the president of the ILD was sent by the president of the republic to negotiate the antidrug trafficking pact between the governments of Peru and the

United States. The participants in the survey most certainly have the idea that President Fujimori will continue relying on De Soto for various government projects. Moreover, the fact that De Soto does not hold a high-profile government office, and is therefore not on the political firing line, contributes to his privileged position.

Another individual who improved his standing significantly in the power survey is First Vice President and Senator Maximo San Roman. This year he is in the number-six position, compared to last year's 11th place. It is very likely that the participants in the survey were swayed by San Roman's strong performance as president of the Senate and his independence with respect to the Palace, quite unlike Paredes' attitude as president of the Chamber of Deputies. As a result, not a few people are beginning to regard San Roman as a potential candidate in the 1995 presidential elections, which is reflected in another question in this year's survey.

Also, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar continues to appear on the scale of the Survey of Power. This year he has dropped to 15th place, after being ranked 12th last year. In general, Perez de Cuellar has traditionally been in the second tier of power (11-20), primarily because his opinion tends to be an important factor in some decisions made by the presidents of Peru.

As far as the business presence is concerned, it has declined in the power rankings since 1990. The highest-ranked businessman is Dionisio Romero, who went from 10th to 16th place. He is followed by Genaro Delgado Parker, number 19 (in 1990 he was number 22). And finally, Jorge Camet, president of the National Confederation of Private Business Institutions (CONFIEP), ranks 30th this year, after holding 16th place in 1990.

In terms of the media's presence in this year's power structure, the only jounalist whose name appears on the list—aside from Delgado Parker, whose placement on the list is undoubtedly due to his role as a businessman—is Cesar Hildebrandt, number 24. Channel 4 has just rescinded his contract for broadcasting the program "In Person."

And as for the clergy, Monsignor Augusto Vargas Alzamora, in the number-11 slot, is the only representative of his sector in the 30 most powerful people in Peru. Last year he ranked ninth.

Former Presidents

As in recent years, former Presidents Alan Garcia (AGP) and Fernando Belaunde (FBT) are included in the top 10, numbers five and eight, respectively. After leaving the government, FBT did not appear in the first 10 positions in 1985 or the following year, but he did return to the first tier in 1987 and has remained there. AGP, on the other hand, has not left the top tier since 1985. It is clear, in any event, that the two former presidents are still playing a key role in shaping political events in the country.

Mario Vargas Llosa, who last year ranked sixth, is now in 14th place. This is significant if we consider that he does not live in the country and has practically announced his retirement from active politics. Nonetheless, his ranking reflects the fact that some people still believe there is a chance that he will run again in 1995, this time without his ex-allies of the FREDEMO.

Other politicians who appear in this year's ranking are PUM Senator Javier Diez Canseco (23rd), whom the participants also consider the main leader of the opposition to the government; Aprist Senator Luis Alberto Sanchez (27th); PPC leader Luis Bedoya Reyes, whose number-28 ranking represents a steep slide from last year's number 13; and AP Senator Manuel Ulloa (29th).

The Power of Terror

The persistent ability of the subversive groups to influence the course of events in the country is clearly reflected in the results of the survey, which ranks Abimael Guzman in fourth place and Victor Polay, 10th. The leader of Sendero Luminoso showed up on the Survey of Power scale for the first time in 1982, in 28th place; but since 1983, Guzman has always been among the top 10. The leader of the MRTA, on the other hand, entered the rankings in 1989 in the 25th slot, moving up to 17th the following year soon after his spectacular and controversial escape through the famous tunnel.

Who Is Missing?

Of the list of the 30 most powerful Peruvians in 1990, missing this year are former Premier Hurtado Miller, former Army Commander-in-Chief Jorge Zegarra, fromer Interior Minister Adolfo Alvarado Fournier, and former Minister of Industry Guido Pennano. What these people have in common is that they have left the positions that were responsible for their inclusion in the DEBATE power ranking.

Others whose names are missing from the top 30 since last year are the general secretary of the Aprist Party, Luis Alva Castro, who has been keeping a low profile in the past year, concentrating his political activity on gaining control of his party with a view to the upcoming congress; Deputy Fernando Olivera, who lost his placement on the 1990 list as number 21 possibly because of the impression that his handling of the charges against Alan Garcia left something to be desired; Monsignor Ricardo Durand, who may have been left off the list because the respondents associated his influence with the post of president of the Episcopal Conference, which he occupied until a few months ago; CGTP leader Valentin Pacho, whose exclusion from the list reflects the difficult period the country's trade union movement is undergoing; and Senators Manuel Moreyra and Enrique Bernales, as well as EL COMERCIO Editor Alejandro Miro Quesada.

Performance of Institutions

The executive branch distinguishes itself as one of the best performing institutions in the last 12 months, in the opinion of the DEBATE survey participants. The results of the poll also indicate that there is a favorable view of the performance of the Armed Forces, the business associations, the Catholic Church, and the press in general.

At the other end of the scale is the legislative branch, which is regarded by 61 percent of the participants as doing a very poor job. Also suffering from tarnished images are the judiciary, the police, and to a lesser extent, the trade unions.

Institutional Rankings

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being very poor and 5 being very good, evaluate the following institutions during the first year of the Alberto Fujimori administration.

Institution	Percentage in Each Rank				
	1	2	3	4	5
Executive branch	2	15	49	33	1
Legislative branch	61	31	4	4	-
Judiciary	48	34	14	3	1
Armed Forces	16	24	46	14	-
Police	38	36	20	6	-
Business associations	2	28	42	27	1
Trade unions	20	52	22	4	1
Catholic Church	4	13	48	26	9
Press	5	25	47	19	3

Power by Sector

Businessmen: Just as he was last year, Dionisio Romero is still regarded as the most powerful businessman in the country. In second place is the man who led the National System of Information (SNI) until a short time ago, Salvador Majluf. He is followed, in turn, by the president of the CONFIEP, Jorge Camet, who last year was ranked second. Below him on the list this year are Juan Francisco Raffo and Genaro Delgado Parker. Also mentioned were Ricardo Vega Llona and Jorge Picasso.

Technocrats: Understandably, Minister Carlos Bolona is at the top of the list of most powerful technocrats, followed by Hernando de Soto, who last year was in first place. They are followed, in order, by Richard Webb, Manuel Moreyra, and Javier Silva Ruete. The president of the Central Reserve Bank (BCR), Jorge Chavez, comes in close behind in the number-six position, followed by Vice Minister of Finance Alfredo Jalilie. All of the technocrats mentioned have in common the fact that they are associated with economic matters. Finally, Felipe Ortiz de Zevallos, president of APOYO [support], was mentioned among the most influential technocrats, but because of his obvious association with DEBATE, he was excluded from the computation of survey results.

Intellectuals: Mario Vargas Llosa is at the top of the list of intellectuals with the most power. In fact, this is nothing new: On the eight prior occasions when this question was asked, Vargas Llosa came in first six times. He has held first place uninterruptedly since 1986. This perception is obviously reinforced by the public exposure he received as a candidate for the Democratic Front (FREDEMO). In the years when Vargas Llosa was not in first place, he was surpassed by Luis Alberto Sanchez in 1985 and by historian Pablo Macera in 1982. This year, these two men are ranked second and third, respectively, on this list. They are followed by Hernando de Soto and Max Hernandez. It should be noted that in this segment of the survey, several respondents asserted that "intellectuals have no power."

Journalists: This year there is also nothing new in terms of the journalists ranked most powerful; the first four slots are held by the same people as last year. Thus, Cesar Hildebrandt, Manuel d'Ornellas, Enrique Zileri, and Alejandro Miro Quesada are still regarded, in that order, as the most powerful journalists in Peru. Moreover, Hildebrandt and d'Ornellas have been in the first two positions since 1989. Like Vargas Llosa in the category of intellectuals, Hildebrandt is a constant in this listing. In the 10 years that respondents have been asked about the most influential journalists, Hildebrandt has come in first six times, and has remained there since 1988; he was ranked second on two occasions. It is apparent that Hildebrandt is able to add his combative personal style to the power of television in a combination that gives him a favored position in this category of the survey. Guillermo Thorndike ceded his fifth-place slot on the list to Genaro Delgado Parker, head of the Radio and Television Association. Also mentioned in this part of the poll were, in order, Alejandro Guerrero and Alejandro Sakuda (tied for sixth), and Dennis Vargas and Roxana Canedo numbers seven and eight, respectively.

Military Officers: The first five positions in the category of powerful military officers go to army generals: Ministers of Defense and Interior Jorge Torres Aciego and Victor Malca, Commander-in-Chief Pedro Villanueva, and retired Generals Luis Cisneros Vizquerra and Sinesio Jarama. The latter two participate actively in forums, daily newspapers, and television programs.

Religious Leaders: The top three names in this category are repeats from last year. The most powerful religious leaders, in the opinion of the participants, are the following: Augusto Vargas Alzamora, Ricardo Durand and Gustavo Gutierrez. In fourth place is the president of the Episcopal Conference, Jose Dammert, and in fifth is Luis Bambaren. Cardinal Juan Landazuri dropped from fourth place last year to sixth in 1991.

Labor Leaders: The General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP) has established its predominance in the trade union sphere, with Valentin Pacho, Pedro Huillca, and Pablo Checa ranking first, second, and third. Fourth place goes to Jose Ramos, of the Sole Trade Union of Education Workers (SUTEP), and fifth is Aprist Deputy Luis Negreiros. This ranking is clear evidence of the fact that Haya de la Torre's party has lost its standing among the trade unions, which, in turn, have lost much of their influence in the last few years, according to the participants in the survey. The failure of the recent call for a national strike provided convincing proof of that perception.

Peruvians for Export

The Survey of Power this year asked once again which Peruvians have the most international prestige. The answers followed the same pattern as in all of the surveys since 1981: Javier Perez de Cuellar came in first, followed by Mario Vargas Llosa. Third place, which until 1989 was generally occupied by Fernando Belaunde, has been held by Hernando de Soto for two years running. Alberto Fujimori is number four in this year's ranking, and fifth place goes to FBT (the same as last year). Father Gustavo Gutierrez is in sixth place, chess sensation Julio Granda ranks seventh, and the eighth position goes to Senator Enrique Bernales, who joins the team of Peruvians groomed for export thanks to his major role in the worldwide human rights movement.

Foreigners With Power

The results of the survey regarding the foreigners who exert the most influence on events in Peru reflect the importance the current administration attaches to the process of rejoining the international financial community. Ranked second, fourth, and fifth, respectively, are IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus, IDB President Enrique Iglesias, and World Bank President Barber Conable, who will soon complete his term of office. First place goes to George Bush, as it did last year, and in third place is Bush's representative in Lima, Anthony Quainton. The latter ranking is an indication of the important role of the United States in the effort to rejoin [the international financial community]. Moreover, reflecting the influence that the Japanese Government may have on President Fujimori is the fact that Japanese Prime Minister Tokeshi Kaifu ranks sixth, while Japan's ambassador to Lima, Masaki Keo, follows him in seventh place in the survey. Number eight is Pope John Paul II. Other prominent individuals mentioned in this category are Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, U.S. Treasury Undersecretary David Mulford, U.S. Drug Czar Bob Martinez, and the Chilean Hernan Buchi, who visited Lima several times this year.

Behind the Throne

One important way of exercising power is to influence the primary authorities, especially when the recipient of the advice is the president of the republic. The participants in the survey have changed their ideas about who has the most influence on President Fujimori, compared to a year ago: Only two people who were counted among the five most influential individuals last year are still on the list, Hernando de Soto and Susana Higushi. Other people are now identified as belonging to the president's inner circle: Santiago Fujimori, Vladimiro Montesinos, and Carlos Bolona. Maximo San Ramon fell from number five last year to number eight in 1991, and Rosa Fujimori, ranked fourth in 1990, is now off the list, having traveled to Tokyo with her husband, Victor Aritomi, Peru's ambassador to Japan. But the family is still present: Kenyi Fujimori—jokingly, or seriously?—is ranked sixth among those influencing the president of the republic, according to the survey. And seventh place goes to the secretary of the presidency, Victor Diaz Lau.

Accomplishments

What are the three main accomplishments of Alberto Fujimori's administration in its first 12 months?	
1) Bringing down inflation	21%
2) Freeing up the economy	20%
3) Rejoining [the international financial community]	18%
4) Structural reforms	13%
5) Antidrug pact	4%
Others	24%

Mistakes

What are the three main mistakes of Alberto Fujimori's administration in its first 12 months?	
1) Confrontation with institutions	16%
2) Lack of antiterrorist strategy	15%
3) Lack of program and team	14%
4) Emergency program	10%
5) Delay in reforms	8%
Others	37%

Remaining Reforms

What are the principal reforms that Alberto Fujimori's administration should carry out in the 4 years that remain?	
1) Redefining the role of the state	37%
2) Tax reform	24%
3) Pacification	9%
4) Cleaning up police corruption	7%
5) Eliminating job security provisions	6%
Others	17%

Virtues and Defects

DEBATE decided that, a year into his administration, the respondents should already have sufficient knowledge of Alberto Fujimori's personality to express opinions on his virtues and defects. The president's most outstanding virtues are his determination and steadfastness, which have allowed him, for example, to keep the lid on the public coffers in spite of the extreme social pressure that forced his predecessors, Fernando Belaunde and especially Alan Garcia, to open them up. In second place is his pragmatism in decisionmaking, and third is his political intuition and instinct. Another virtue mentioned by the respondents is his political independence, and one cited the fact that he is "a lucky person." Some participants bitterly refused to concede that he has any virtues.

On the other hand, the defects of the president emphasized by the respondents were: authoritarianism, unreliability, the lack of a program and team, and, in fourth place, his propensity to pick fights with other branches of government.

Performance of Ministers

Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller and Carlos Bolona, the two economy ministers who have served the government in its first year in office, are considered by the participants to be the best ministers so far. This opinion is probably based on the fact that, while there is still a long way to go toward eliminating inflation and rejoining the financial community (the two economic objectives established by the government), they are on the right track. Third place goes to Carlos Amat y Leon, who resigned as agriculture minister when he saw that the president was interfering with his autonomy; that move was supported by the majority. Number four is Minister of Energy and Mines Fernando Sanchez Albavera, and number five is former Health Minister Carlos Vidal, who resigned over his disagreement with the president's handling of the cholera epidemic. The next three spots are occupied by former Education Minister Gloria Helfer, Labor Minister Alfonso de los Heros, and Premier Carlos Torres y Torres Lara.

On the other hand, the worst minister so far in this administration, in the overwhelming opinion of the respondents, is Agriculture Minister Enrique Rossl Lynk. He is followed by the former ministers of the interior and fishing, Adolfo Alvarado Fournier and Felix Canal. Fourth on the list of disliked ministers is Health Minister Victor Yamamoto.

The Opposition

Politicians like to say that the best time to establish a political presence is when one is in the opposition. Two PUM legislators and two ex-presidents are perceived by the respondents as the main leaders of the opposition to Alberto Fujimori's administration. Senator Javier Diez Canseco is in first place, followed by Alan Garcia, Ricardo Letts, and Fernando Belaunde. Number five on the list is Abimael Guzman, leader of the subversive group Sendero Luminoso. And Victor Polay, head of the MRTA, ranks 11th.

Also appearing on the list of "opponents" is PPC Senator Alberto Borea, number six, followed by the leader of his party, Luis Bedoya Reyes, number seven. In eighth place on this list is Mario Vargas Llosa, while Luis Alva Castro takes ninth place. And finally, number 10 on the list is journalist Cesar Hildebrandt, the only nonpolitician regarded by the participants as being one of the main opponents of Alberto Fujimori's administration.

Best and Worst Legislators

The participants in the survey felt that the five legislators who did the best job during the term from July 1990 to July 1991 were, in order, Maximo San Roman, Enrique

Bernales, Lourdes Flores, Raul Ferrero, and Dennis Falvy—three senators and two deputies, four of whom were serving their first term in Congress. San Roman and Bernales were president and vice president of the Senate, respectively, which may explain why this chamber performed so much better than the Chamber of Deputies. Next on the list of best performing legislators are Manuel Moreyra, Javier Diez Canseco, and Javier Alva Orlandini.

On the opposite end of the scale, the respondents gave the president of the Chamber of Deputies, Victor Paredes, the number-one ranking as the worst performing legislator. There is widespread agreement that he helped aggravate the problems that were to be expected in an inexperienced legislature, given the large number of newcomers.

The participants ranked Ricardo Letts as the second worst legislator, followed by Deputy Fernando Olivera, who so far has not met the expectations of those who hoped he would quickly prove the charges of illicit enrichment leveled against former President Alan Garcia. Fourth and fifth places on this list go to PUM legislators Carlos Malpica and Hugo Blanco.

Next on the list of legislators who performed poorly during the first year are Aprist Jorge del Castillo, Cambio 90 members Gerardo Lopez and Elmer Evangelista, Aprist Luis Alvarado Contreras, and PPC legislator Victor Andres Garcia Belaunde. Finally, it should be noted that no small number of respondents said that the Cambio 90 delegation as a whole did a poor job during the first year.

Lima Mayoralty

The respondents feel that PPC Senator Juan Inchaustegui is the favorite to win the November 1992 elections for mayor of Lima. He is followed on the list by two women: former Minister Gloria Helfer and Aprist Senator Mercedes Cabanillas. In fourth and fifth place, respectively, are Kurt Woll and Michel Azcueta.

Ranked sixth is the current president of the Peruvian Institute of Social Security (IPSS), Luis Castaneda Lossio, who some think will be the AP candidate in the municipal elections, while seventh place is held by PPC Deputy Lourdes Flores. Former Lima Mayor Alfonso Barrantes follows closely in eighth place. Curiously, only one participant mentioned the possibility that the current mayor of Lima, Ricardo Belmont, might run again in 1992, which seems impossible. At present, four out of five Lima residents disapproves of his performance, which suggests that knowing how to organize telethons is not enough to run a city as complex as Lima.

Presidential Hopefuls

No sooner is one election is over than Peruvians are beginning to speculate on who will be the next president. And although some of the respondents feel it is premature to express an opinion on the matter, others surveyed by DEBATE are willing to venture a guess. They say that Alan Garcia has the best chances of wearing the presidential sash again. He is followed by Mario Vargas Llosa (whose candidacy is apparently not ruled out by the respondents), Senator Maximo San Roman, former Premier Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller, and UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who usually turns up in this part of the survey.

In addition, the participants give sixth place to former President Fernando Belaunde, seventh to Senator Enrique Bernales, and finally, not a few say that it will be "an unknown," foreseeing the possibility of a "Fujimori II" occupying Pizarro's house in 1995.

Presidential Hopefuls

Which Peruvians have the greatest chances of becoming president of the republic in 1995?

1) Alan Garcia	36%
2) Mario Vargas Llosa	27%
3) Maximo San Roman	15%
4) Juan Carlos Hurtado	10%
5) Javier Perez de Cuellar	7%
6) Others	5%

* Government Reorganizes Social Development Fund

91SM0479B Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish 16 Aug 91 p 16A

[Text] The government will undertake a series of social investment projects, especially involving the stimulation of employment, health, nutrition, and basic education through the National Fund for Compensation and Social Development (FONCODES), which will replace the National System of Compensation and Social Development.

The new organization, which has been split off from the Office of the President of the Republic, was created by Legislative Decree No 657, published on 15 August in the DIARIO OFICIAL DEL ESTADO. In the decree it was also stated that this action was a national necessity and of public utility, in view of the urgent need to resolve the situation affecting the poorest groups in the country.

The FONCODES budget is included in the budget for the Office of the President of the Council of Ministers. As a decentralized, public institution, it will have legal status in public law with technical, administrative, economic, and financial autonomy.

According to the decree, FONCODES will be controlled by a Board of Directors made up of representatives of the Office of the President of the Republic, of the Council of Ministers, of the Ministries of Health, Labor

and Social Development, Education, Agriculture, and Economy and Finance, of local governments, and of the community at large. There will be one representative for each of these institutions.

Resources available to FONCODES will consist of allocations from the Public Treasury, derived from agreements to forgive debts through donations, as well as other donations, transfers, and bequests which it may receive, as well as funds obtained from the administration of its resources and non repayable contributions from foreign governments, foundations, international organizations, and other bodies.

Its resources will also include loans from domestic and foreign sources, as well as other contributions made on its behalf.

Since it is desired that the activities of the fund will cover the whole country, regional committees will be established which will propose the priority areas for the implementation of its investment projects, as well as to identify the groups of human beings living in extreme poverty.

Once the Board of Directors of FONCODES is established, its members will have a period of 40 days to present draft bylaws so that it can begin its work in as short a period as possible.

Uruguay

Bank Against Granting USSR $80 Million Loan

PY1709145291 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 11 Sep 91 p 9

[Excerpt] The Bank of the Republic believes lending the USSR $80 million is risky and its authorities have voiced their opposition to such a loan. This information was disclosed by Emilio Berriel, president of the Bank of Republic's executive board, at the end of a meeting with the Senate's finance commission.

Berriel commented: "We believe that to grant the USSR such a large loan at this moment would be risky." [passage omitted]

PCU Resolution on Proposal To Change Name

PY1709143691 Montevideo BUSQUEDA in Spanish 12 Sep 91 p 9

[Text] The following is the text of the resolution that was approved by the Central Committee of the PCU (Communist Party of Uruguay) on 7 September:

1. To approve in general the proposal contained in the article that was written by Jaime Perez and published in LA HORA POPULAR on 1 September, and the report that was received on 6 September. These documents and this resolution will be debated by all members [of the party].

2. To this effect, the party's organizations and all communists can thus promote a full debate on this topic.

3. This debate will end with a referendum 90 days from this date—on 6 and 7 December—in which all members will be able to express their decision.

4. The Central Committee will meet to accept the proposals that emerge from this debate and to decide on the type of referendum.

5. The fate of this proposal will emerge from a process of debate, experience, and the exchange of ideas among people and political forces that share the same aspirations; in the case of the communists, the final decision will emerge from a party congress.

Venezuela

Malaysian Industry Ministry Delegation Visits

PA1709035791 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1550 GMT 16 Sep 91

[Text] A Malaysian mission is currently visiting our country. The mission will tour the installations of the cooking oil companies in Carabobo State to evaluate the possibilities of investing in this sector of our country's agricultural economy.

The visiting delegation is headed by Malaysian Primary Industries Minister Lim Keng Yaik. He is accompanied by 18 representatives of the public and private economic sector.

The delegation's tour through Carabobo State will allow members to establish contacts with the national private enterprise. For that purpose, the delegates will tour the installations of several cooking oil companies to get first-hand information on the country's important agro-industrial developments. The members of the visiting delegation will then be able to decide whether to formalize investment, cooperation, and commercial trade with Venezuela.

* Details of Electoral Reform Law Presented

91SM0483A Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish Section 1, 9 Aug 91 p 14

[Text]

Citizens Will Be Able To Check Electoral Districts

Any citizen will be able to check for himself whether the method that the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE) has used to create an electoral district was the proper one, it was explained yesterday at a CSE press conference during which the methods in question, prepared with advice of the OCEI [National Office of Statistics and Information], were officially made public.

During the conference, which was attended by the president of the CSE, Isidro Morales Paul; CSE member

Miguel Espidel; Electoral Planning directors Roberto Chang and Filippo Vagnoni, and the director of the OCEI, Felix Seijas, among others, an explanation was given of the system adopted to create the new election districts, in each of which the people will elect a single representative to deliberative bodies.

In his opening speech Morales Paul emphasized that the Venezuelan electoral system is entering a more complex stage, with features that will encourage voter involvement, and that the CSE is therefore more active, in connection with referendums for example.

As for the creation of the districts and the establishment of the electoral system, Morales Paul asked Congress to approve once and for all the census that was conducted last year. Only 6.7 percent of the population was overlooked, and the census can thus be considered a good one.

He also asked Congress to spell out, even if in a political agreement among parties, the electoral system that will be used to elect councilmen in 1992, since it is hard for the CSE to work with hypotheses because of the cost they entail.

Agreement on Methodology

Chang Mota and Vagnoni were in charge of explaining the principal change that the creation of electoral districts for the deliberative bodies will entail. Districts have been used in Venezuela to elect the president of the republic (the entire republic), the governors (an entire state), and mayors (an entire municipality). In the 1940's councilmen were chosen in elections one to a parish.

Things are changing now. The existing law provides for a mixed single-representative system for electing state deputies and assemblymen in 1993, and some sort of single-representative system, which requires an electoral district, is anticipated for the election of councilmen in 1992.

The studies conducted by the CSE have given rise to an agreement on the method that will be used to create each of these districts. The method involves a series of standards and procedures that must be observed to the letter in each case so that everyone has a clear idea of and agrees on the boundaries of each district in which a representative will be popularly elected, whether a congressional deputy, a regional assemblyman, or a municipal councilman.

This is an important agreement, reached by virtue of algorithms and formulations that have nothing to do with politics. As we know, there are instances in the electoral history of the United States and France in which districts have been gerrymandered.

The procedures made public yesterday guarantee a single standard for the creation of all electoral districts, thus dispelling any suspicions about the process. The aim is to divide a state or municipality into several sections (districts) in which a representative will be elected. The technical studies of the OCEI were used for this purpose, as for the 1990 census it divided the country into small population areas. In other words, the OCEI divided the country into sections and knows what their boundaries are and how many people each contains. Article 8 of the Suffrage Law sets forth the procedure for calculating the population that each district will have and provides that this figure cannot be exceeded or undershot be more than 15 percent. The districts will be established on the basis of these data, starting with the municipality (parish, segment, or sector, as the case may be) in the extreme northwest in terms of longitude and latitude. Then, the contiguous municipalities, parishes, or segments will be added to the base unit in a clockwise direction, tracing a circumference whose radius is equal to the first base unit until the boundary of the municipality or parish is reached.

The area is gradually enlarged, pursuant to a similar rule, until the proper population for the district is reached.

Two important points about this agreement are that it sets clear ground rules for all participants in elections and that with this methodology any citizen can check whether in fact the districts were created correctly.

The importance of the new electoral district as a cultural change bears emphasizing. In the 1992 elections there could be districts in which only 300 voters will choose a councilman. In this case, the campaign will inevitably be a person to person one. In a densely populated city this phenomenon will not be seen, but in an election for congressional deputies, for example, there could be three distinct districts, which would of course elect different representatives. Both voters and candidates will have to become accustomed to this.

The creation of the districts is divided into an office stage and a field-work stage to check the district on site. The OCEI has at present completed the studies on 12 states; the on-site visits are pending.

The CSE has announced that it will give the country a map of all the electoral districts in the first quarter of 1992.

* Luis Pinerua Ordaz Pleads For AD Unity

91SM0483B Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish Section 1, 9 Aug 91 p 13

[Text] Puerto Ordaz (Special)—Yesterday in this city Luis Pinerua Ordaz, a national leader of Democratic Party (AD), called on all of his party's members in Bolivar State to punish the leadership that has tarnished the white party's honor, by voting for slate number seven for sectional secretary general in the internal AD elections. Slate seven is headed by Raul Andres Leoni and is identified as one made up of independent AD members.

Pinerua asserted that such is the party's crisis that it cannot remain split between the orthodox and renewal factions, because all that will be achieved is to shatter the organization, when what is needed is unity above all else,

in order to rescue the party from the demoralization caused by the current leadership, which is totally divorced from the principles, ethics, and morals of the party of the people.

Pinerua Ordaz, Raul Andres Leoni, and Raul Yusef presided over an assembly in the AD district headquarters in this city. Pinerua Ordaz swore in all of the members of the 23 municipal sections of the Caroni Political District, with all of their bureaus or committees. He urged them to continue embracing the banners of decency and decorum in politics and to not miss the opportunity furnished by the elections on the 25th of this month, because this could be the last chance that AD has to make a comeback in Bolivar State, inasmuch as if a slate other than number seven wins, the party will regrettably continue to decline.

The AD leader emphasized the fact that he has campaigned the hardest for slate seven in Bolivar State because, in his opinion, this is, of all the states in the country, the one that most urgently needs a change in its leadership and in the manner of practicing politics.

"In order to recapture the governorship and the mayor's office in Caroni we need to rescue the party. Then, we will have to present our best men and women to the people as candidates for the deliberative bodies, for mayor, and for governor, and put honest people in the public offices that come under the Executive Branch."

Pinerua Ordaz made the following statements at a press conference in Guayana City:

"Eduardo Fernandez, who proclaimed himself the champion of political reform in Venezuela during his party's national event, has regrettably altogether forgotten about one very important reform, the one that Venezuelans feel most strongly about today. This is the reform to give local residents the right to elect their councilmen, their city hall representatives by their first and last names."

The senior AD official explained that only his party has taken a stand on the issue of the single-candidate election, whereas COPEI [Social Christian Party] and especially Eduardo Fernandez have supported an arrangement that Pinerua Ordaz finds confusing, one that in no way meets the desires of local residents.

"I issue and reaffirm a serious challenge to all candidates for president of the republic and to all parties to take a stand on this particular reform for the election of the next municipal authorities. It is just not right for some to continue deceiving the Venezuelan people the way COPEI and Eduardo Fernandez have been."

Pinerua also reaffirmed his opposition to the increase in gasoline prices that the administration has ordered. In this regard he pointed out that it was totally untrue that this step was taken to set a realistic price for gasoline. "If this were so," he said, "the funds would be appropriated for the operating companies."

"Moreover," he added, "it is unacceptable for a country that has so much money to confess that the funds are not there to meet a need as basic as rural roads.

"I reject the increase; it is unacceptable," he indicated.

* Carlos Canache Mata on Corruption, Elections

91SM0483D Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish Section 1, 12 Aug 91 p 12

[Text] If we were to go by the number of reports of corruption with which Venezuelans are bombarded every day, we could come to the far from pleasant conclusion that Venezuela has more corrupt people per square kilometer than any other country in the world.

What we are seeing every day is a flood of accusations and charges. If there were a Noah's Ark in this flood, there would be more than enough room for the few survivors.

These thoughts were voiced by Dr. Carlos Canache Mata, a national leader of Democratic Action (AD) who is seeking its presidential nomination.

Canache analyzed the current situation in the country, the process going on inside his party, and the chances that the orthodox faction, with which he identifies, has for victory in this process, the first phase of which will be completed on the 25th of this month with the primary elections.

As for the scourge of corruption and the flood of charges of all sorts that have been made public in recent months, Canache Mata made the following remarks:

"I think that the political parties and the various segments of Venezuelan society have to confront this situation. One of the sources of corruption is political patronage, which used to emerge every 5 years but now appears every 3, owing to the elections of councilmen, mayors, and governors. When electoral contests roll around, the parties and their candidates look for their patrons or financial backers in the private sector of the economy, and this is one of the main sources of corruption. Another major pocket of corruption is located in the Judiciary, because even though a majority of judges are honest, others have turned the courts into something like auction rooms in which sentences are bought and sold."

He indicated that the political parties have to be implacable in safeguarding the ethical and moral values with which they must be endowed, because many leaders think that the parties are like Savonarola when corrupt people from other parties have to be denounced but become like the kindly Francis of Assisi when their own corrupt members are involved.

"This entire situation has created an environment of perplexity, confusion, and uncertainty in the country. And this has done us great harm internally and tarnished the image that we must project overseas."

The political leader noted that nonetheless a positive situation that did not exist under other administrations is developing because the accusations are being made as soon as irregularities are detected without waiting for the end of the term to blame "the previous administration." President Carlos Andres Perez wants everything to be aired in public so that each person can take the blame.

He added that the full freedom of expression that exists under a democracy enables the irregularities that are detected to be identified clearly and without restrictions of any sort.

"Nevertheless, I have the impression that the administration has suffered from slow reflexes in responding to all of the charges that have been made. Let us hope that its regains its muscle and nerve tone so that it comes up with the proper word at the right time in order to clarify whatever charges are made."

Another major positive development is that the mass media and newsmen have become more powerful and braver; this has given rise to accusatory reporting, which has almost become a variety of reporting by now. Canache Mata had these comments on the subject:

"Accusatory reporting is obviously becoming very enthusiastic and making great gains in the country. This should not alarm us, because the silence of cowardice or complicity would be worse. If there is corruption in government or the private sector, then bringing these facts to public light strengthens and stabilizes democracy. In any event, the charges are not what is serious; the acts of corruption are."

"It is noteworthy," the reporter notes, "that most of the corrupt individuals belong to AD, and people feel that the ruling party ought to have tighter controls to prevent this from happening."

"Democratic Action is in power, and being in office always offers more temptations to those who do not possess well-developed morals and ethics. In any case, the party has a commitment to itself and to the country to enforce the provisions of its bylaws, under which a court of ethics is supposed to operate in our organization. The members of this body resigned in recent months, but at the National Convention that we are going to hold on 22 September we have to appoint the new members of the court so that it can start to function immediately."

Canache Mata then made the following observation:

"This slackening of political morals is taking place not just in AD but also in opposition parties and in various institutions of Venezuelan society. We have to salvage the country's morals. This is the most important battle that we have before us."

Canache Mata then addressed the process inside his party, asserting categorically that there is no chance that the rank and file elections will not be held on 25 August. This election is what all AD members want, and it is good for the party. The party elections have to be completed as soon as possible because while they are going on there is a temptation to engage in confrontation, in fratricidal slaughter, and in battles with weapons of war.

He recalled that previously, when the secretary general had to report on the results of National Executive Committee (CEN) meetings, what he gave newsmen was a sort of war report. The situation has improved, however, and once the elections are over, the waters will return to their normal level and cordiality will be restored in the party.

"I do not have the slightest doubt that the orthodox faction will win these elections easily, because the main leaders of Democratic Action belong to it. The intellectually most brilliant leaders are unquestionably to be found in this faction, though I acknowledge that there are also very valuable colleagues in the renewal faction."

[EL UNIVERSAL] So, is the die cast?

[Canache Mata] Yes, but there will be neither winners or losers, nor will the slate be wiped clean, because the colleagues who belong to the renewal faction will be represented on the CEN.

[EL UNIVERSAL] But President Carlos Andres Perez has said that all AD members are for renewal. Don't you think that this assertion is very significant?

[Canache Mata] I think that President Perez was talking about the changes that the country has been undergoing for some time now. In the National Congress we passed the law that provides for the election of state governors, the Law of Administrative Decentralization, and the Transfer of Jurisdictions to the states. We also amended the Suffrage Law to establish a new voting system, created the institution of mayor, and made other gains. I think that this is what the president of the republic must have been talking about when he said that all of us are for renewal. Under no circumstances could I conceive that he misused those words on purpose to encourage voters to favor the so-called renewal faction this coming 25 August. If he had done so with that intention, he unquestionably would have been turning his back on AD's tradition of not using government power to favor any of the factions competing in internal elections. In any event, I think that at least 80 percent, if not all of us, in AD are orthodox and will vote for the orthodox faction.

[EL UNIVERSAL] Five months ago you left the post of head of the congressional group to tour the country and get in touch with your party's members. It was stated clearly that you would seek the presidential nomination. Yet almost half a year later you are last in the opinion polls as an AD presidential hopeful. What is your view on this?

[Canache Mata] I never said that I was traveling around the country as someone seeking the AD nomination. I have always been careful to indicate that I am carrying

out the regular tasks of any political leader. I am not, in fact, doing well in some polls, but in a survey that the COPEI [Social Christian Party] firm Issue conducted some 2 months ago among AD activists, Luis Pinerua and I got the highest ratings, he with 35 and me with 44 percent. No one else made a showing.

[EL UNIVERSAL] Do you plan to make an announcement about this next February?

[Canache Mata] I am going to wait until the internal elections are held. After the National Convention there will be an opportunity to speak in greater detail about this issue. AD is a serious party, and once we put this period behind us we will all work together so that the next president of the republic is a member of our organization.

[EL UNIVERSAL] Nevertheless, well-known AD leaders are not betting anything on a party victory in 1993.

[Canache Mata] I think that the party will win. We are not in the sort of situation that COPEI is right now. They have an organizational problem involving the current chief and the founder. In contrast, we have short-run confrontations having to do with the primaries. Moreover, AD is without any doubt whatsoever most like the Venezuelan people. We have our troubles, because we are weighed down by an economic-austerity plan that has prompted a great deal of dissatisfaction. It is true that the macroeconomic variables that were out of balance have been restored, but all of this has to be reconciled with social fairness and a redistribution of well-being among all Venezuelans. This situation has had a political cost for us, but I am absolutely certain that once we choose our presidential candidate and once the positive results of the economic measures are seen, we are going to be unbeatable in the December 1993 elections. COPEI has lead in its wings. We do not. Perez will hand over power to a member of AD.

[EL UNIVERSAL] Perhaps to Canache Mata?

[Canache Mata] To whomever the party runs as its candidate. And if I am chosen, I will be the next president of the republic.